

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LVII.]

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BIRTHS.

On the 26th March, at Claregrove, Chefoo, the wife of JAMES McMULLAN, of a daughter.
On the 31st March, at 94, Consular Road, Tientsin, the wife of J. COWEN, of a son.
On the 4th April, at No. 1, Edna Villas, Shanghai, the wife of PASTOR P. KEANZ, of a daughter.
On the 8th April, at Mayfield, Singapore, the wife of W. WOHLER, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 2nd April, at the Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, ERNEST L. ALLEN, younger son of J. W. ALLEN, of Shanghai, to ELIZABETH EMMA, second daughter of GEORGE E. KING, of Northwich, Cheshire, and niece of Captain R. A. J. ANDERSEN, of Shanghai.
On the 4th April, at Amoy, at H.B.M. Consulate, by P. F. Hauser, Esq., and afterwards in the Union Church, by the Rev. W. McGregor, D.D., ALEXANDER, elder son of the late JAMES CUMMING, Aberdeen, to CHARA ABEL, youngest daughter of Captain J. C. SAUNDERS, Amoy.
On the 14th April, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, M.A., ERNEST GRANVILLE, only son of the late EDWARD JORDON, Esq., of Kent, England, to EILEEN MAUD MARY, eldest daughter of H. T. HUNNUTT, merchant, of Melbourne. Sydney and Melbourne papers please copy.
On the 14th April, at Peak Church, Hongkong, by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, M.A., JOHN COCHRANE, only son of ROBERT GRAHAM COCHRANE, Esq., of Essex, England, to FLORENCE EDITH (DAISY) FORSTER, elder daughter of the late ROBERT FORSTER, Esq., of Walshead, Essex, England.
On the 15th April, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, M.A., THOMAS, youngest son of the late ALEXANDER COCK, Esq., of Shanghai, to MAY, daughter of the late W. L. HUNTER, Esq., of Foochow.

DEATHS.

On the 4th April, at 168A, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, GEORGE ALFRED, the elder son of Mr. and Mrs. A. WHITE-COOPER, aged 24 years.
On the 4th April, at Oxley Road, Singapore, Capt. JOHANN TURNER, aged 73 years.
On the 18th April, at Southport, T. E. WEATHERSTON, late of China.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The U.S. mail of the 19th March arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, on the 15th April (27 days); the German mail of the 17th March arrived, per N.D.L. steamer *Bayern*, on the 15th April (29 days); and the French mail of the 20th March arrived, per M.M. steamer *Caledonien*, on the 19th April (30 days).

HONGKONG.

The number of plague cases in the Colony from January 1st to date is returned at 254.

The local Cotton Spinning Company notifies that an interim dividend of 4 per cent. has been declared.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. Chang Chun Hong to be a public vaccinator.

When last reported H.M.S. *Glory* was at Yokohama, the *Bramble* at Weihaiwei, and *Blenheim* at Japan.

The Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., has declared an interim bonus of 20 per cent. upon contributions for the year 1902.

During the last quarter of 1902, the silver export from Canton amounted to 3,279,261 Hk. Tls.; the import was 486,587 Hk. Tls.

Mr. B. Brotherton Harker, architect, civil engineer, and surveyor, of Queen's Road Central, has been elected an associate member of the Institute of Civil Engineers of London.

A Chinaman hanged himself on the 15th inst. on some bamboo scaffolding at Kennedytown. Although the act was committed in practically the public street, it was not discovered until the man was dead.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ended 11th April were 252 non-Chinese and 70 Chinese to the former, and 49 non-Chinese and 2,882 Chinese to the latter institution.

Pollard's Lilliputian Opera Company have been occupying the Theatre Royal during the week. *The Geisha*, *The Belle of New York* and *La Mascotte* have been performed before crowded and highly appreciative audiences.

The Chinaman who is accused of complicity in the murder of Yeung Ku Wan, the schoolmaster, at 5, Gage Street on 11th January, 1901, was again brought up at the Magistrate's on the 15th inst. and remanded formally for another week.

Inspector Culbert, of the detective department of the Colony's police force, left for Scotland on the 1th inst. by the English mail on nine months' leave. He is accompanied by his wife and child. Many friends boarded the liner to wish the party bon voyage.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Mr. Hugh Pollock Tooker, Executive Engineer, has been deputed by His Excellency the Governor-in-Council to act on behalf of the Building Authority in all cases referred to in sections 205, 207 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1903 in connection with dangerous buildings.

The Government of Indo-China has declared Hongkong to be infected with bubonic plague, and Asiatic immigration, &c., from Hongkong, is prohibited.

Sir William Goodman, the Chief Justice will leave for Japan on the 22nd inst. on a two-months' holiday. During his absence, Sir Henry S. Berkeley, Attorney-General, will act as Chief Justice and Mr. E. Sharp, K.C., will fill the position of Attorney-General.

At a meeting of the Justices of the Peace at the Magistracy on the 15th inst. L. Comar was granted an adjunct licence to sell and retail intoxicating liquor at No. 61, Des Vœux Road Central. The Justices present were:—Messrs. F. A. Hazeland (Chairman), J. H. Kemp, C. D. Melbourne, A. Seth, and Capt. F. W. Lyons. Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, solicitors appeared for the applicant.

On the 10th inst., by the P. & O. steamer *Coromandel*, Mr. E. E. Belilios, C.M.G., took his departure for Shanghai. From thence he will proceed to Dalny, and there take the train for Europe. Mr. Belilios is one of the first to make the trip home *via* Siberia from this port since the Siberian Railway was opened along its entire route. We understand that Mr. Belilios will probably reside in England for some years.

Formal notification is now made of the dissolution of the partnership formerly existing between Messrs. Dorabjee Nowrojee, I. P. Madar and William Farmer in connection with the New Victoria and King Edward Hotels, Hongkong, and the Victoria Hotel, Shamsen. Mr. Farmer, as from the beginning of the year, takes over the Shamsen Hotel, while the other two partners take over the Hongkong establishments.

On the 10th inst. a trio of ricksha coolies came into collision in Des Vœux Road outside the Hongkong Hotel. Two allied themselves against the third, and during the fight he received a kick or a blow on the spleen which caused rupture of that organ. He sank down in the street, and expired very soon afterwards. The police were called, but the assailants escaped and are still at large. The police, however, are in possession of their names, and unless they have gained Chinese territory their capture should not be long delayed.

The blank walls of certain houses near the top of Mosque Street have been secured as an advertisement hoarding by a well-known local firm of wine and spirit merchants, whose name appears in letters of such magnitude that they cannot fail to strike the eye of anyone looking at the City from the Harbour or Kowloon. The effectiveness of the advertisement is unquestionable, but it does not lend any beauty to the view. How long will it be till "X" "a Pills" flaunt their remedial sovereignty from the face of the Peak?

The various signature-lists in connection with the petition for the removal of the Admiralty Dock were withdrawn on the 9th inst. after having been open for three days, and were subsequently arranged by Mr. E. A. Hewett, who carried out the secretarial work, and forwarded to Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Chairman of the Committee, for presentation to His Excellency the Governor. It is gratifying to learn that the petition was signed on behalf of practically all the firms, companies, etc., in the Colony, and that the different nationalities are well represented among the signatories.

RUSSIA AND MANCHURIA.

(Daily Press, 10th April.)

It is satisfactory to gather from REUTER'S message to-day that the United States Government, at any rate, is concerning itself with Russia's performance of her engagements in Manchuria. No news has yet, by the way, come to hand that Russia has completed the withdrawal of her troops from the provinces of Mukden and Kirin, and perhaps it is this absence of information that has caused the intentions of the U.S. Government to be made known in Washington with regard to the insertion of the clause in the proposed treaty between China and America by which Mukden and Takushan are to be declared open to foreign trade. It certainly will test the soundness of Russia's promise to maintain the open door in Manchuria, for Mukden has become an important military depot, as well as a station on the Manchurian railway system. Takushan is a port on the Bay of Corea, but as to its value as a commercial centre we know very little. The British Government has again and again declared its policy to be to maintain an open door in Manchuria, but we have so far seen nothing to support the declaration. It was the United States which secured that the indemnity due to the Powers from China should be payable in cash, in order to prevent Russia making any friendly arrangement with the Chinese Government to secure territory in discharge of the debt, and it is again the United States Government which specifically asks for certain Manchurian trade centres to be opened to foreign trade in order to test the value of Russian assurances on the subject of the open door in that territory which is now under her control. The result of this effort will be awaited with interest.

(Daily Press, 16th April.)

Though no official information has yet been received that Russia has performed to the satisfaction of the Chinese Government her treaty obligation to withdraw her troops from the Provinces of Mukden and Kirin by the 8th of the present month, there is no lack of information, apart from the Moscow telegram published in the *Times* and summarised by REUTER, that the obligation has been or is being discharged—in the usual manner. Certain Russian Ministers at St. Petersburg we are told "strenuously oppose" the evacuation, though on what grounds the telegram is silent. We referred a short time ago to a rumour which had obtained currency in Peking to the effect that the Russian Minister had submitted to the Wai Wu Pu the draft of a new Convention in regard to matters relating to Manchuria. What purports to be the text of this document has since been published, and its contents go far to confirm the description of the agreement as providing for a joint administration of the province. In this precious agreement Russia asks for the right to tax all guns, rifles, ammunition and other war materials that may be imported by the land routes in Russian territory, the amount of the tax to be fixed by consultation between Russian and Chinese officials. In the second paragraph Russia points out the undesirability of China procuring the material for railway construction from abroad, and suggests the establishment of large iron works at Kalgan for its manufacture. Then, owing to the increasing number of Russian-Chinese companies engaged in the exploitation of mines in Manchuria, Russia would like permission to establish a Mining Bureau at Harbin to deal with all matters relating to mining in

Shengking, Hei-lung-kiang and Kirin. Further, the Convention would provide that all goods, not mentioned in the existing tariff, whether imported into the Chinese Empire from Siberia or exported to Russian territories by land from the Chinese Empire, shall be entirely free from duty; and a further paragraph provides that Russia and China will unite in establishing Customs Houses at all the important points in Manchuria for the collection of duties. Finally, China is asked to concede five million square li of land in Mukden, Harbin, Kalgan and other places as residential areas for Russian subjects. It is naively added that the conditions contained in the Convention are to be considered as special rights conceded to Russia, which other Powers shall not be able to claim under the most-favoured-nation clause of their treaties. We cannot say whether the document is what it claims to be, an authentic copy of the Russian Minister's proposals, but it unquestionably represents the ambitions of the Muscovite in Manchuria. At the same time it cannot by any ingenuity be reconciled with the declaration of consent contained in the Convention of 1902 to "restore to the Chinese Government the right to exercise governmental and administrative powers as they were before the occupation by the Russian troops." The restoration, if it ever happens, is evidently intended to be temporary, and what Russia has failed to get by force she will probably in the end acquire by diplomacy.

BRITISH CONSOLS.

(Daily Press, 10th April.)

So far REUTER has omitted to furnish us with any news respecting the automatic reduction of interest on Consols from two and three quarters per cent. per annum to two and a half per cent. which according to the National Debt (Conversion) Act of 1888 was due to take effect from the 5th inst. As the total amount of Consols stands at £592,410,228 the reduction of interest by a quarter per cent., unsatisfactory though it may be to holders, means a saving of nearly a million and a half pounds sterling annually for the Government in meeting debt charges. It is interesting to recall the fact that when the Three Per Cent. Consols were converted to Two-and-Three-Quarters Per Cent. Consolidated Stock, the holders who dissented from the conversion represented less than a million sterling out of a total of some 166 millions. The new Stock was issued on condition that the rate of interest should be maintained at 2½ per cent. per annum for fourteen years, ending with April 5th, 1903, and afterwards at the rate of 2½ per cent. One would have supposed that some information as to how this reduction of interest had affected the money market would have been deemed by REUTER'S Agency of sufficient importance to transmit. If there is any free selling of Consols by holders who are dissatisfied with such a low rate of interest as 2½ per cent., Consols may be expected to fall below 90.

A Peking despatch states that owing to a recent joint memorial presented by Viceroy Chang Chih-tung and Yuan Shikai strongly recommending the immediate issue of an Imperial edict abolishing for ever the old style of examinations for the Chü-jên (Master of Arts) and Chin-shih (Doctor) degrees, and authorising the Peking University to conduct examinations in future and confer higher literary degrees, a party of Conservative Censors have begun sending in memorials to the Throne denouncing the two Viceroys and their scheme.

RAILWAY PROJECTS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 13th April.)

The answer given by the Under Secretary of State to Sir CHARLES DILKE'S question with regard to British railway concessions in China (reported in our last issue) was hardly as full and explicit as could have been desired. It was satisfactory only so far as it served to dissipate the belief that not a mile of any of the 2,800 British miles that figured in Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD'S despatch of November, 1898, detailing the concessions granted to Britishers, had yet been laid with the exception of the North China railway. Such a statement we find paraded even in the *Contemporary Review* by a gentleman who poses as an authority on the subject in England. We refer to Mr. DEMETRIUS BOULGER. To be sure, the progress made has been slow, as is only to be expected when the political troubles in China since the concessions were obtained are borne in mind and especially when their effect in financial circles abroad is considered. Now we are authoritatively told that besides the Peking-Newchwang line, with its extension to Tungechow (about 600 miles) which is open to traffic, the branch from Chung-low-so to Simmingting is approaching completion; the Peking Syndicate's line from Taku to the Honan coalfields is in course of construction, and their line from Pukou on the Yangtze opposite Nanking, which will connect with the Peking-Hankow line, is under negotiation. Surveys have been made for the lines from Soochow to Hangchow and Ningbo, and from Canton to Kowloon. The British and Chinese Corporation have concluded a fresh agreement for the construction of the line from Shinghai to Nanking, but with regard to the other lines no action, so far as the Government are aware, is desired by the concessionaires.

It will be at once observed that there are some notable omissions from the list of Lord CRANBORNE compared with that prepared by Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD in 1898. With regard to the Hankow-Canton line, the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs said the British and Chinese Corporation are no longer interested in it. More will, or at least ought, to be heard about this concession if it be true that the American Syndicate known as the WASHBOURNE-CAREY group, which acquired the rights in this line, have disposed of 60 per cent. of the concession to Belgian financiers. As Mr. BOULGER has properly remarked in drawing the attention of the British public to this report, the American Syndicate can part with its shares, but it cannot override the political exigencies and safeguards which dictated the support given by diplomacy to all the railway concessions in 1890. Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD vigorously supported the American concession for the Canton-Hankow railway, and counted it as a British victory. He included half of it among British lines. The sale of the shares to a syndicate of another nationality should invite a strong diplomatic protest.

There is, besides the notable omission of the Tientsin-Chinkiang railway, a concession which England shared with Germany, and the still more important line of about 700 miles through Yunnan. In the opinion of Lord CURZON it would be "midsummer madness" to talk of such a project as the Burmah-Yunnan line in the present state of Central Asian affairs, and the indications are not at present hopeful for the commencement of the work. Nor are we likely to see progress for some time with the Anglo-German concession. Before the

Boxer outbreak the prospect was far more hopeful than it is to-day. The hatred of the foreigner revealed by the Boxer rising has undoubtedly compromised the financial position of China, and the investing public is inclined for the present to be nervous over Chinese securities.

The new terms which the British and Chinese Corporation obtained a few months ago for the construction of their line from Shanghai to Nanking will certainly facilitate the construction of this important railway, which, traversing as it does the thickly-populated region of the Yangtze, is likely to prove of greater commercial and political value to Great Britain than any other line in China. Scarcely less valuable commercially will be the line from Canton to Kowloon, and though we are glad to observe that this project is still kept in the forefront, we should be glad to learn that an early commencement of the undertaking is intended.

THE SPY MANIA.

(Daily Press, 14th April.)

When men are arrested as they have been lately at Singapore because they have been discovered innocently taking snapshots of the public buildings in the Colony, consideration is again invited to the adequacy of the reasons for the excessive precautions which are taken not only in Singapore but in many other places against the "spy." We may associate in this connection the recent story of the arrest of an alleged Russian spy at Aden—a report the truth of which, by the way, has been denied by the Russian Admiral who was in the harbour at Aden at the time. Does it not strike the average man that there is something very absurd about the shadowing of strangers who may consciously or unconsciously wander near a fortification and perchance use a kodak to reproduce the scene? Assuming the person in question to be a spy, what information could he supply as to the defences at our ports which the great military Powers of the world do not already know. The War Office publishes the strength of our garrisons, and it is not difficult for anybody to ascertain the number and nature of the guns at all or any of our ports, or even of the whole available supplies of modern guns in England or any other country. The Aden incident has induced a writer in the *Manchester Guardian* to remark that in one sense the forts are a positive danger to ourselves, for while an enemy would not dare use a single warship for so foolish a process as bombardment, he would willingly hazard a steamer of the volunteer fleet in rapidly landing 2,000 men to turn the fortifications in rear and rush the garrison. The writer quotes our own defences in Hongkong in illustration. "At Hongkong," he says, "heavy guns are mounted on an island remote from the main garrison, and a volunteer ship at night, along the trade route to Canton like any merchant steamer, could rapidly land men, capture Stonecutters' Island, turn the guns on to the dockyard, and effect a great deal of damage before the men were dislodged." The obvious comment upon this is that it would be insane for any Power to attempt anything of the kind, for it is extremely unlikely if a landing were effected in this way that the opportunities would be given for doing any material damage. But so far as Stonecutters' Island is concerned, the theory may well provoke smiles rather than fears, and we fancy that in its application to any other British fort the imagination of the author of this pretty little theory would be found to have overreached itself.

THE ADMIRALTY DOCK PETITION.

(Daily Press, 15th April.)

The petition sent in from the residents to His Excellency the GOVERNOR for transmission to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies in reference to the removal of the Admiralty Dock from its selected site will, we hope, receive the attention it deserves. This is not the first effort that has been made to obtain for the city of Victoria the necessary permission for its expansion eastward. The interposition of the Naval and Military buildings and cantonments in the heart of the city was a great original, though not unnatural, mistake, but the appropriation of the sea face of those extensive concessions to the exclusive use of these departments was a still graver error. It had the immediate effect of dividing the city into two portions, with which there was no connection except by the narrow and crowded thoroughfare of Queen's Road. The immediate effect of this separation of the two extremities of the city was to crowd up buildings in the western half, and in consequence the districts of Taipingshan and Saiyingpoo have been most unduly packed by Chinese tenement houses wherever a foot of space could be found. Thus by process of conversion, as space became more and more valuable, European compounds and gardens, corner lots, and even steep wooded banks that were at one time regarded as waste and impracticable, have been converted into a mass of bricks and mortar, ill ventilated, badly drained, and densely tenanted. It was not until the pressure had become so great and rents had risen to an excessive figure that some of the tide of life swept eastward, so thoroughly cut off from the haunts of business had Wanchai and Bowrington appeared to the Chinese. Even at the present time the idea is still prevalent in the conservative native mind that the eastern district is remote and sundered from the busy quarter of the town, and this will undoubtedly linger with the Chinese unless and until the Praya be made continuous, and the city converted into a whole instead of being cut sharply into divisions.

The fact that an engineering difficulty in the construction of the projected dock in the Naval Yard had developed gave to the residents an opportunity for one last protest against the formation of what cannot prove otherwise than an obstruction and a nuisance in that position in the city of Victoria. Some two years ago Sir PAUL CHATER formulated a scheme for transferring the Naval Yard bodily to the opposite side of the harbour and placing it between Yau-mati and Tsintshatsui. That would have given the Naval Authorities an area of 122 acres, with a tidal basin of 22 acres and ample room for three graving docks, besides a large area for workshops, store-sheds, coal godowns, offices, &c. The Admiralty decided, however, that it was necessary to have a dock and yard on this shore, and proceeded with the reclamation determined upon, and a large sum of money has already been expended on the works. This need not, however, be lost, as the reclamation can be utilised and the outlay made good by the Colony if the suggestions of the Dock Removal Committee are carried out. The Committee now propose that the dock should be moved to one of two good sites on the north shore of the island of Hongkong, and that the Colony should reimburse the Admiralty all the money so far expended. They also pray, in their petition, that a Royal Commission be appointed on

which all the interests concerned be represented to consider the question and report on the advisability or otherwise of removing the dock to another site. The reasonableness of this request will, we hope, be recognised by the Imperial Government, though they may not perhaps altogether relish the delay that will be necessitated if a Commission be appointed. They may also possibly object that there will not be sufficient accommodation for the docking of the larger vessels of His Majesty's Fleet in the Colony; but on this point it should be easy to reassure them, for not only is there the fine Admiralty Dock at Hunghom always available for the purpose, but in a few years there will be another at Quarry Bay which will be capable of accommodating the largest vessel in the British Navy. This fact is not dealt with in the petition, either because the Committee were shy of stating obvious facts or feared the accusation of attempting to teach the Admiralty their business. We are restrained by neither of these considerations, and mention the facts because though fairly patent they might yet be overlooked. It is never any good taking things for granted, or imagining that what is known to ourselves is also and of course matter of notoriety to outsiders. In fact, it may be laid down as a cardinal maxim, in dealing with the good folks at home—whether official or non-official—that the majority of them are very badly informed or, if not unpardonably ignorant, then pardonably forgetful. And therefore we boldly venture to remind the Lords of the Admiralty that, even though they should not build a dock here at all, they might still depend upon getting excellent and ample docking facilities in the Colony.

STORM-WARNINGS.

(Daily Press, 16th April.)

The question of the inadequacy of the storm-warnings issued by the Hongkong Observatory, concerning which there was last year so much agitation, was most thoroughly threshed out by the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce last autumn, and the public are now anxious to know what the Government intend to do, as the typhoon season is again approaching. It will be remembered that the Chamber Committee, with a view to obtaining the opinions of the whole shipping community, issued a circular letter to all the shipping agencies and firms, asking them to collect the views of the shipmasters in their employ as to the methods of issuing storm-warnings most suited to their requirements. A sub-committee was then appointed to examine and report upon the opinions and suggestions thus gathered. This report was duly forwarded to the Government on the 13th January last, with the expression of the hope that His Excellency the GOVERNOR would see his way to issue instructions for the introduction of a system on the lines suggested in the report. The receipt of this letter was acknowledged on the 19th January by the Colonial Secretary, who then requested the Committee to forward for the GOVERNOR'S consideration the replies of the shipmasters to the Chamber's circular letter of the 13th October, 1902. The Committee, at their meeting on the 20th January last, decided to comply with this request, and presumably the documents required were furnished. Since that time, however, nothing further seems to have been done, and no decision appears to have been arrived at by His Excellency the GOVERNOR. Whether the delay has been caused by reference of the

report and correspondence to the Observatory, the officials of which have been taking time to criticise the report and perhaps counter the suggestions of the shipmasters, is a matter we, of course, are unable to decide. But there is delay somewhere when time is precious, and we strongly deprecate such delay. The suggestions forwarded to the Government for the improvement of the service of storm-warnings were the outcome of the practical experience of the persons most interested, namely the shipowners and shipmasters, and they were offered in no carping spirit or with any desire to find fault with the system at present in vogue, but simply and solely with a view to render the work of the Observatory more valuable by being more instantly available. We trust, therefore, that the suggestions will be received in the spirit in which they were made and that the Government will not hesitate to adopt any practicable measures that will render the storm-warnings clearer or more timely. In a matter of this kind red tape or formalities of any sort should be set aside, and quick despatch be the first consideration. Time and tide wait for no man, and the winds that blow will not turn aside to await the pleasure of a government. Whatever is done in the shape of providing storm-warnings should be done with the utmost promptitude so that the benefit should be real and not merely seeming.

THE UNREST IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 17th April.)

For a long time past, in fact almost ever since the return of the EMPEROR and EMPRESS DOWAGER to Peking, there have been continuous run outs of unrest in the far north-west of the Chinese Empire. Prince TUAN and General TUNG FU-HSIANG are the personages around whom the stories of plots and machinations gather, and their movements appear to be followed with a more or less languid interest by foreigners, and with real or feigned alarm by the Peking officials. So far, it is true, neither of these doughty leaders has accomplished anything beyond some brag and bounce, which, rightly or wrongly, they are credited. But their presence in Kansu and Shensi serves at any rate to inspire uneasiness at the Court in Peking and to give rise to a crop of reports, few of which probably contain more than the merest grain of truth. The latest rumour comes from Northern Hupeh, and is to the effect that Prince TUAN and his fellow conspirator, TUNG FU-HSIANG have sent an ultimatum to the EMPRESS DOWAGER calling upon her to carry out formally what she virtually accomplished years ago, namely, the deposition of the Emperor KWANG HSU, and to put the discredited heir apparent, PU CAI, son of Prince TUAN, on the Dragon Throne in His Majesty's place. The consequences of a refusal to comply with this request are stated briefly as the loss of the provinces of Kansu and Shensi, which the conspirators at the same time threaten to erect into a separate empire, with Hsian-fu as its capital. A correspondent of our Shanghai morning contemporary, writing from Fancheng, on the Han river, in Hupeh, asserts that a large number of Hunanese soldiers, who had come up from Wuchang in boats, arrived at Fancheng on the 12th ultimo bound for Hsian-fu. As it is very unusual for troops from Hunan to be sent north to Shensi in time of peace, our contemporary is inclined to connect this movement with the alleged demand by the disaffected

Chinese insurgent leaders for the deposition of the EMPEROR. It is also of opinion that the EMPRESS DOWAGER is suffering from fears that Prince TUAN and his colleague are really potential enough to work mischief in the north-western corner of the Empire if not to organise a descent in force on Peking. No doubt the Hunanese troops, who are believed to be loyal to the dynasty, are also being sent to Hsian-fu with directions to garrison that city and to stiffen the backs of the officials there or supersede them if necessary. It does not follow, however, that they will be allowed to reach the capital of Shensi. TUNG FU-HSIANG's troops may intercept them, and the chance of this may explain the EMPRESS DOWAGER's uneasiness. The old lady appears to be now hovering between Scylla and Charybdis. On the one hand she dreads the reformers whose hope was in the Emperor KWANG HSU, and on the other she fears the reactionaries who are represented by the fugitive Prince TUAN and the disgraced General TUNG. What will be the upshot of all the unrest, disaffection, and anti-foreign feeling which are now rampant in North China it is hard to predict. Pessimists there are who confidently predict a fresh and more formidable rising than the one which rendered the closing year of the nineteenth century so sadly memorable, but we hope that the lesson then read to the Boxer leaders and the anti-foreign officials was sufficient to act as a deterrent to violence and outrage at any rate for some decades, long enough perhaps to inaugurate a healthier feeling and more friendly relations with the foreigner. It is, however, well to continue precautions, and the Legation guards in Peking will obviously have to remain an institution for many years to come. It would never do for the Treaty Powers to relax their precautions or to accept the bland assurances of the Tsung-li Yamen that all danger is past and violence will never be meditated again by a Chinese mob. Neither will it do for the EMPRESS DOWAGER to discuss terms with the outlawed leaders. Both Prince TUAN and General TUNG were among the foremost advocates of the campaign against foreigners, and had they been able to work their will would undoubtedly have carried out a policy of extermination. If there is any coquetting by the EMPRESS DOWAGER or the Tsung-li Yamen with these arch-enemies of the Western Powers, there is bound to be serious trouble, and, at the least, it will lead to new complications with foreigners, ending possibly with a fresh and greater war.

Replying to Sir Charles Dilke in the House of Commons on the 9th ult., Lord Cranborne said:—With the exception of the Hankow-Canton line, in which the British and Chinese Corporation are no longer interested, the remaining British Railway concessions enumerated by Sir C. MacDonald (about 2,500 miles in all) are still existent, but only the Peking-Newchwang line, with its extension from Peking to Tungchow (about 600 miles) is open to traffic. The branch from Chung-low-si to Simminting is approaching completion. The Peking Syndicate line from Peking to the Honan coalfields is in course of construction, and their line to Hankow is under negotiation. Surveys have been made for the lines from Soochow to Hangchow and Ningpo, and from Canton to Kowloon. The British and Chinese Corporation have just concluded a fresh agreement for the construction of the line from Shanghai to Nanking. I informed the House on 4th inst. of the action taken by His Majesty's Government in regard to the Pukou line, with regard to the other lines, no action, so far as His Majesty's Government are aware, is desired by the Concessionaires.

THE CHINESE PETITION.

(Daily Press, 17th April.)

Dr. Ho Kai's lengthy defence of the Chinese Petition for the extension of Sir HENRY BLAKE's term of office as Governor of the Colony does credit to his industry as well as to his ingenuity. But we should like to point out that no one has questioned the fact that HIS EXCELLENCY's administration has been greatly appreciated and admired by the Chinese community. It is only when the petitioners come to enumerate the acts which have marked HIS EXCELLENCY's administration that criticism is provoked. Dr. Ho Kai seems in his reply to have missed the point that the criticism is largely excited by the fact that personal credit is given to HIS EXCELLENCY for philanthropic, educational, sanitary and other improvements when it by no means necessarily follows that because all these things have been accomplished during HIS EXCELLENCY's term of office the honour and the glory therefor belong essentially to him. We differ entirely from the view expressed by Dr. Ho Kai that it is immaterial whether the measures were initiated by HIS EXCELLENCY or whether they had been pressed upon him by local organisations or popular agitation. The answer to our comments with regard to the failure to collect Crown rents in the New Territory constitutes one of the weakest, lamest excuses conceivable. These rents in disputed cases cannot be collected "on account," as HIS EXCELLENCY in August, 1900, said they would be, because of the "extreme reluctance" on the part of the owners and occupiers of land to pay rent before their claims had been demarcated, investigated, and allowed by the Land Court. Dr. Ho Kai further explains that in order to distrain for rent the Government "must have a rent roll and must be able to identify by map each plot of land on the rent roll." The alleged owners surely have a clear idea of the limits of each plot which they claim belongs to them and to abandon the considerable revenue which ought to be derived from this source on such flimsy pretexts is a confession of extraordinary weakness.

Nearly one column and a half is occupied in defence of the paragraph in the Petition in which it is claimed that the police measures adopted have tended to preserve the peace and good order of the Colony in a manner "the most effective and unsurpassed." We asked how this could be reconciled with the statement in the latest police returns showing that during the past five years the increase in "serious offences" in the Colony has been 30 per cent. compared with the figures for the previous five years. Dr. Ho Kai answers that in that time the native population has increased 64 per cent., which is a very good point to make, as the increase in the Police Force has not been in the same proportion. Doubtless, if detection of crime was more certain than it is now, the police returns would show a more favourable tendency, and the community will be pleased to learn through Dr. Ho Kai that a detective branch is to be soon added to the district watchmen force, which is maintained by the voluntary contributions of Chinese ratepayers. We are indebted to Dr. Ho Kai for the light he has been able to throw on the causes of the delay in the provision of those public buildings and certain administrative reforms which have so long been promised, and we trust that at the end of another five years it will not be our unpleasant duty to again refer to them as unaccomplished items in the list of improvements.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 9th inst. in the Board Room. Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer (President) presided, and there were also present Capt. F. W. Lyons, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police; Colonel Webb, R.A.M.C.; Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Mr. A. Rumjan, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

NEW CEMETERY FOR CHINESE.

Correspondence was submitted relative to a cemetery for Chinese near Kowloon City.

The PRESIDENT said it appeared from a report he had received from the Medical Officer of Health that there were at present in existence two cemeteries for Kowloon City—one at Ho Sheng Po and the other at Sai Yuen Shek. The former cemetery was already full, and the Medical Officer of Health had recommended that it be closed. In the latter there was room for four or five hundred more burials at least, and the President said he proposed to move that the Board recommend the Governor in Council to select a site for a cemetery for Kowloon City from the plan which he laid on the table. The site was to the north of the city, and the limits would be given by the Public Works Department.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—May I ask how far this cemetery is from Kowloon City?

The PRESIDENT—It is close to it, within easy distance. It has already been used as a cemetery.

The PRESIDENT's motion was seconded by Mr. FUNG WA CHUN and agreed to.

SAIYINGPOON MARKET.

Correspondence was laid on the table relative to the limits of Saiyingpoon Market. This included a letter from Inspector H. G. Baker to the Acting Captain Superintendent of Police suggesting an extension of the limits as a means of clearing all vegetable hawkers out of Torsim Street and Rinsacker Street; making the eastern boundary Eastern Street, the western boundary Western Street, and the northern boundary Des Voeux Road; the hawkers congregated in these streets in large numbers, had quite a market, and were a nuisance to the neighbourhood. This letter was passed to the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, who thought Inspector Baker's suggestion an excellent one and recommended its adoption, adding that the present boundaries are too near the market, with the result that the place is overrun by hawkers to the detriment of the business of the market stall-holders.

The PRESIDENT said it appeared that the present boundaries of the market were too near the market itself, and the result was that the place was overrun by hawkers, to the detriment of people who had stalls in the market. The suggested new boundaries were:—On the east, Eastern Street; on the west, Western Street; and on the north, Des Voeux Road. The President then formally moved that these be the limits.

Mr. RUMJAHN seconded, and the motion was carried.

WELL AT TUNG WAH HOSPITAL.

Further correspondence was laid on the table dealing with the closing of the well at the Tung Wah Hospital.

Mr. C. McL. Messer, Acting Registrar-General, wrote on behalf of the Committee of the Hospital requesting the Board to reconsider the question of closing the well at the Tung Wah Hospital. This water was required solely for washing clothing and cleansing the premises. Under the present circumstances the hospital was dependent on the Government supply, which was intermittent and insufficient. The President in asking members to state their views minuted:—"The objection to this well is more that from its position and structure it is liable to contamination. This matter has already been twice considered by the Board."

Mr. A. Rumjan:—"It might be allowed to be used until an efficient supply is obtained."

Colonel Webb:—"If it could be assured that the water would only be used for washing clothes and cleaning the floors, I think it might be allowed to be used for the present."

Mr. Lau Chu Pak:—"Under the circumstances do not close."

Mr. Fung Wa Chun:—"The well has been closed."

The Acting Registrar-General:—"Should be allowed until a proper water supply is provided."

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police:—"Let it be used until water is supplied."

The Director of Public Works:—"Better allow it to be used for the present."

The Principal Civil Medical Officer:—"The well has been closed and I think it better that it should remain so. This is a surface well and is very liable to contamination."

The PRESIDENT said the well had been closed, so that the matter was practically settled. There was no request from the Tung Wah Hospital authorities that the well should be reopened.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN thought there must have been some misunderstanding. The architects of the hospital had called to see the Medical Officer of Health or the Secretary of the Board on the matter, and they were informed that the Board had decided to close the well. The architects then called on him, and he told them that if that was the position of the Board the well must be closed. In the meantime, however, he would move that the Board recommend the Government to ask the Water Authority to give a fuller supply of water to the Tung Wah Hospital, as the present supply was not sufficient.

The PRESIDENT—Is it not the case that a storage tank has recently been erected?

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—Yes, but I do not think they can fill it unless they get a better supply of water.

The PRESIDENT said he had much pleasure in seconding Mr. Fung Wa Chun's motion. The well, however, should be closed, as it was a surface well and liable to contamination. It was necessary, he considered, that a hospital like the Tung Wah Hospital should have a continuous supply of water, and he agreed that the supply, if possible, should be made a continuous one.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN's motion was then put to the meeting and carried.

WATER ANALYSIS.

Mr. Frank Browne in his analysis of the public water services during March found all the water to be of excellent quality.

LIMEWASHING.

From the limewashing returns it appeared that during the 27 days ended 31st March 6.6 houses in the Central District had been treated.

THE DEATH-RATE.

The death-rate for the week ended 14th March was 10.3 per 1,000 of the population per annum as compared with 30.9 in the previous week and 32.6 in the corresponding week of the previous year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ANALYSIS.

There was laid on the table a return by the Government Analyst (Mr. F. Browne) showing that during the quarter ended March he analysed 1 sample of milk, which was found to be adulterate; 1 of ghee, pure; 2 samples of whisky, pure; and 9 of beer, pure and free from arsenic.

THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES.

An application was submitted for permission to hold theatrical performances at Yaumati and Cheungshawan.

Mr. POLLOCK having minuted that the matter should be considered purely on sanitary grounds, the PRESIDENT said he quite concurred with that view, and was of opinion that the congregation of large crowds of people such as gathered in theatres should be deprecated when an epidemic disease like plague was prevalent in the neighbourhood.

Mr. POLLOCK said that if the question had been a mere matter of sentiment as to whether they wished or not to deprive their Chinese fellow-citizens of any reasonable means of recreation, there was no single member of the Board who would oppose the application. But they had to consider the matter simply and solely from the point of view of the public health, and on that ground he felt it was their duty to refuse the application.

The PRESIDENT's motion that the application be refused was seconded by Mr. POLLOCK and carried by a majority. Mr. FUNG WA CHUN, Mr. LAU CHU PAK, and Mr. RUMJAHN voted in the minority.

FUMIGATING PAWNSHOPS.

There was submitted a minute by the Acting Medical Officer of Health recommending that

all pawnshops should be fumigated with formalin gas.

The PRESIDENT thought the scheme an excellent one. Formalin was more or less a new disinfectant, and used in gaseous form. He was informed by those who had used it that it was not likely to destroy or injure in any way the fabrics usually stored in pawnshops.

Mr. POLLOCK suggested that experiments might be made in a few cases before the Board bound itself down to any definite action.

The Board went into committee and considered the question.

On resuming, the PRESIDENT moved that the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health be forwarded to the Government and that an application be made for authority to incur the necessary expense.

Col. WEBB seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

MALARIA AT MORRISON HILL.

There was laid on the table a letter from Mr. Ho Tung thanking the Board for the steps they had taken to lessen the chances of malaria at Morrison Hill Gap. It had been suggested that the nullah there should be drained and the undergrowth in the neighbourhood of the Mohammedan Temple cleared away. The Board had not been able to carry out the first suggestion at present, but the second had been carried out.

LAVATORY ACCOMMODATION.

The Board considered an application from Messrs. Leigh & Orange for permission to erect one trough closet, eight water closets, and four urinals in a building on M. L. No. 103, and on the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Col. WEBB, the application was granted.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE VISITATION.

There was submitted an application from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co for the exemption of certain houses from house-to-house visitation.

The PRESIDENT moved that the application be granted subject to precautionary conditions laid down in 1900 in the case of a similar application being complied with.

Mr. POLLOCK seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

RAT RETURN.

During the week ended 30th March 3,568 rats were caught in the Colony, and of these 183 were infected. For the week ended 6th April the figures were:—3,153 rats caught and 141 infected.

The PRESIDENT said it had occurred to him that the present method of procedure in dealing with infected rats should be reconsidered. Under the present system the ground floor of the house nearest to which an infected rat was picked up was disinfected, and the rat-runs filled up with concrete, after carbolic acid had been poured into them, but that procedure was likely to drive infected rats to other houses that were not infected. His proposition was that these radical measures be stopped during the prevalence of plague and efforts for the present to exterminate the rodents be confined to the use of bird-lime and rat-traps.

Mr. POLLOCK seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

This was all the public business.

The King has been pleased to give and grant unto Mr. John Alexander Summers His Majesty's Royal licence and authority that he may accept and wear the Insignia of the Third Class, Third Division, of the Imperial Chinese Order of the Double Dragon, conferred upon him by His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China, in recognition of his services as Professor of English at the Chinese College at Shanghai.

The Sin Wan Pao is informed by its Peking correspondent that people coming to Peking from Kirin report that the Russian Administrator has been recently doing his best to get into favour with the merchants and people of that region, by exercising leniency and justice in his administration. He often informs the people that after the Russians have retired from that part, the Chinese authorities will probably not be able to cope with the brigands, and that on the contrary the presence of Chinese soldiers will do more injury than good to them.

SUPREME COURT.

Thursday, 9th April.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND COMMANDER BASIL TAYLOR (ASSESSOR).

COLLISION CASE.

His Lordship gave judgment in the cross-action arising out of a collision which occurred on 22nd November about half-past three in the morning in the China sea about 100 miles N. of Hainan Island, between the French s.s. *Eclair* and the Portuguese s.s. *Hoi-kiang*, while the *Eclair* was going to Kwangchauwan and the *Hoi-kiang* coming up to Hongkong, as a consequence of which collision the latter vessel sank in deep water and the former was seriously damaged.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. F. Paget Hott of Messrs. Monney & Brutton, solicitors), appeared for the *Eclair*, and Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. G. C. C. Master of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors), was for the *Hoi-kiang*.

The Chief Justice, in giving judgment, said—About 3.15 or 3.30 a.m. of the 22nd November last, a collision occurred between the French steamer *Eclair* and a Portuguese small steamer, or large launch, called the *Hoi-kiang*. The collision occurred some three or five miles off a promontory known as Sung Yia Point, situated, roughly, some 70 miles from Kwangchauwan, and it resulted in the sinking of the *Hoi-kiang*. At the time, the *Eclair* was proceeding from Hongkong to Kwangchauwan, and the *Hoi-kiang* was on her way from that port to Macao and Hongkong. The course steered by the *Eclair*, shortly before the collision, was west by south, and that of the *Hoi-kiang* was east by north. Each was steered by compass, and the courses were exactly parallel. Each steamer claims that it was nearer to the shore than the other. If that contention on the part of the *Eclair* is correct, the vessels would have passed each other, in the ordinary course, red to red. If, on the other hand, the *Hoi-kiang* was nearer to the shore than the *Eclair*, they would, in ordinary course, have passed green to green. The evidence, with one exception, was, on both sides, that of Chinese, and as is, unfortunately, only too common, in Admiralty cases, the witnesses on the one side contradict flatly those on the other on the important points of the relative positions of the vessels and the lights seen from each respectively. The account of those on the *Eclair* is that they saw the red and green lights of the *Hoi-kiang* nearly right ahead, but very slightly on the port bow and about a mile or a mile and a half distant. If this is correct they did the right thing by porting their helm, and the *Hoi-kiang* ought to have done the same. The evidence for the *Eclair* is that the vessels thus proceeded, red to red, until they were some four lengths apart, when the green light of the *Hoi-kiang* suddenly appeared on the *Eclair*'s port bow and the red shut out. The *Eclair* was making 10 knots and the *Hoi-kiang* about 8, from which it follows that they were approaching each other at the rate of a nautical mile in a little over three minutes. Four lengths of the *Eclair* are equal to 160 yards, and this distance would be covered in, roughly, 15 or 16 seconds. There was, therefore, very little time for the *Eclair* to take measures to avoid the collision, but such measures as they say she did take appear to be proper, viz, putting the helm hard-a-port and telegraphing to reverse the engines—an order which was immediately carried out. The cases cited by the counsel for the *Hoi-kiang* as to the necessity of prompt reversal where risk of collision is involved do not seem to me to assist much in the determination of this case. The engines were reversed if the evidence can be believed, and it would appear there were not more than 15 or 16 seconds between the sudden opening of the *Hoi-kiang*'s green light and the actual collision. Assuming the evidence of the *Eclair*'s witnesses to be substantially correct, the fault was entirely that of the *Hoi-kiang*. Passing to the evidence of the *Hoi-kiang* people, they tell a

very different tale. Their account was that they first saw a green light a little over a mile off. They had seen the white light several minutes before that. When they saw the green they blew two blasts and slightly starboarded, and not green to green. They proceeded thus for three or four minutes and then suddenly, and at a distance of not over eighty yards, the *Eclair* red opened out, whereupon the *Hoi-kiang* starboarded and reversed, but the collision occurred. His Lordship then reviewed the evidence on both sides, and came to the conclusion that the *Eclair*'s account was supported by a far stronger body of testimony than that on behalf of the *Hoi-kiang*, and continued:—There is, however, one matter which can be submitted to the test of absolutely reliable and independent testimony. The *Eclair* was surveyed on 24th and 25th November, on her arrival in Hongkong, by Mr. A. G. Gordon. His evidence makes it certain that the *Eclair*'s stem did not penetrate the *Hoi-kiang*, but that the *Hoi-kiang*'s stem did, as alleged by the *Eclair*'s lawyers, in their preliminary act, inflict great damage to the port bow of the *Eclair*, about five feet from the stem. In spite of this, the preliminary act of the *Hoi-kiang* alleges that "the stem of the *Eclair* crashed into the starboard bow of the *Hoi-kiang*, just forward of the green side-light. After Mr. Gordon's evidence, the counsel for the *Hoi-kiang* had to admit that his clients' preliminary act was wrong in that respect. Here, therefore, we find the allegations of the witnesses of the *Eclair* to be correct, and those of the opposite side to be erroneous. My nautical assessor agrees with me in coming to the conclusion that the collision was entirely owing to the faults of those in charge of the navigation of the *Hoi-kiang*, and I, accordingly, find in favour of the *Eclair* in the original action and also in the cross-action which was brought by the *Hoi-kiang*. There must be the usual enquiry as to damages, and I give judgment for the *Eclair* in both cases with costs.

Thursday, 16th April.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

SEQUEL TO A COLLISION.

On the 11th of March last Lo Kam Loy brought an action against the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., for \$259.25 in respect of damages caused to his cargo-boat, No. 791, in a collision with the Dock Co.'s tug-boat *Fame* in the Harbour on 12th December. The cargo-boat was at the time in tow of a steam-launch of which the master was Cheung Sing, 7, Salt Fish Lane, and was proceeding from the Canton steamer wharf to the *Empress*. The *Fame* was going from east to west and in attempting to pass under the stern of the tug and tow she struck the cargo-boat in the stern and caused damage to the extent claimed. Judgment in the suit was given for the defendant, his Lordship holding that on the evidence the *Fame* was not to blame.

Lo Kam Loy now brought an action for damages against the master of the launch which had his boat in tow for the sum named above. Mr. E. J. Grist of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. John Hays of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors, was for the defence.

Mr. Grist, in opening the case for the plaintiff, said that on the day in question plaintiff's cargo-boat was being towed by defendant's steam launch from the Canton steamer wharf to the *Empress* when the cargo-boat collided with the tug-boat *Fame*. Plaintiff contended that had the steam launch kept her course there would have been no collision. She backed her engines at the last moment and took her way off, so that the *Fame* which was going astern could not get astern and struck the cargo-boat aft. He had summoned a number of witnesses in this case, but for some reason or other they had not appeared.

His Lordship—Are the launch people appearing?

Mr. Grist—They are appearing.

His Lordship—Then I am afraid you are in an awkward hole. But I will give

you every opportunity, because you remember I made the remark on that occasion that I came to the decision with very great regret and that if there had been any evidence on the other side I would have given it full consideration but there was none.

Mr. Grist—It will be very hard if my client cannot get something out of somebody. The position taken up by the defendant was an altogether unwarrantable one. He was asked to produce his witnesses in the first case and support us against the Dock Company but they never appeared.

Mr. Hays—They were subpoenaed.

Mr. Grist—They could not have been, because I tried to get the people on the boat and they were purposely sent away.

Mr. Hays—You have to prove that.

Mr. Grist—I can prove it.

His Lordship—If there is any trouble about subpoenaing, I shall issue a warrant for the captain.

Lo Kam Loy, master of cargo-boat No. 791, said his boat was being towed by defendant's launch from opposite the Canton steamer wharf to the *Empress*. The boat was lashed to the starboard side of the launch. He was giving no directions as to the course to be pursued by the launch; that was left entirely to the master of the launch. On the way the *Fame* collided with his cargo-boat. He saw the *Fame* when she was far off, going from east to west; she tried to pass on the stern of his boat. He did not know whether or not the launch did anything to avoid collision; she blew two blasts on her whistle, but he did not know what that meant.

Captain S. McIsaac, who was master of the *Fame* at the time of the collision, said she was steering near the centre of the fairway coming from east to west. He was on the launch's starboard bow. When about 50 yards off the launch blew two blasts on her whistle, indicating that she was starboarding her helm and going to port. But instead of doing so she reversed her engines and went astern with the result that a collision took place. Had she kept on her course there would have been no collision. To avoid collision, he went full speed astern.

The Chinese steersman of the *Fame* gave corroborative evidence.

The case for the defendant launch was that she gave only one blast on her whistle when approaching the *Fame*, and was trying to allow the *Fame* to pass across her bows accordingly, when the collision occurred.

His Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiff with costs, and referred the question of damages to the Registrar. He was glad that this case had come on as he now saw that his judgment in the first case was perfectly right and that the doubts he entertained at that time were unfounded. The defendant launch took the wrong manoeuvre altogether and was to blame. The Court adjourned.

MINING DEVELOPMENTS.

The correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* at Ngankin writes:—

There is reason to think that mining operations on a large scale will soon be opened up in the south-eastern portion of this province, in which extensive concessions have been obtained by three foreign syndicates, two English and one German. An experimental shaft sunk for coal near Tatung on the river bank has proved a failure, as bed rock was struck two hundred feet down, and nothing more. Another shaft is now being drilled some six miles from the river, with what result has not yet been heard.

The mineral deposits through the south-eastern part of the province are of unquestioned value. Besides coal and iron, the chief deposits, the prospecting has been good also for copper, quicksilver, lead, silver, antimony, and gold. A mine for the last-named metal, worked in the Ming dynasty, is likely soon to be reopened, and with modern methods should give a rich return. For some weeks recently the interests of the London and China Mining Syndicate were represented here by Sir John Lister Kaye, Bart., and Mr. A. Hespeler, M.E. The latter gentleman will soon start for a several months' prospecting and surveying tour of the mining regions.

RETIREMENT OF MR. A. MACKIE.

FAREWELL PRESENTATION.

Mr. A. Mackie, the retiring Chief Inspector of Police, left for home on the 16th inst. by the P. & O. steamer *Java*, accompanied by his wife and one son. Mr. Mackie has a remarkable record of service. Joining the Police Force of the Colony in December, 1871, in which year he was drafted from Leith with a number of other recruits, he has served for a period of 31 years almost without a break, the only time he was absent from duty being on the occasion of a four-months' trip to Australia in 1887. Mr. Mackie attained his first step of promotion in May, 1874, when he was appointed to the rank of sergeant. Five years later he was made a third-class inspector, in 1886 he was appointed to the second class rank, and in 1891 to the first class. After acting as Chief Inspector in 1896 and Deputy Superintendent in 1897, he received the appointment in the latter year of Chief Inspector of Police, the position he has now relinquished. A year ago Mr. Mackie for the second time filled temporarily the office of Deputy Superintendent of Police, which carried with it the duties also of Deputy Superintendent of the Fire Brigade. He was granted the 4th class good conduct medal in 1889, 3rd class in 1893, and 1st class in 1894, in which year he was also awarded the plague medal for exceptionally honourable work during the first epidemic in the Colony. He was commended by his Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G., for the energy and ability he displayed during the coolie strike in April, 1895, and received the personal thanks of his Excellency the Governor for services rendered in the plague epidemic of 1896. Mr. Mackie gave the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary (then Captain Superintendent of Police), invaluable assistance in the sifting of the gambling scandal and the reorganisation of the Police Force which followed as a consequence.

After such a splendid record it was fitting that the close of Mr. Mackie's official career, which has never once been disfigured by a "black mark," should be attended by such a ceremony as that in the compound of the Central Police Station on the 14th inst., when the ex-Chief Inspector of Police was made the recipient of tangible tokens of the esteem in which he is held throughout the force to which he has been such an ornament. The presentation ceremony was performed by Captain F. W. Lyons, Acting-Captain Superintendent of Police. Among those present besides Mr. Mackie were Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, A.S.P., Mr. J. H. Kemp, Acting Police Magistrate; Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, First Clerk; Inspectors H. G. Baker, W. Robertson, D. MacDonald, W. L. Ford, W. G. Warnock, and J. Gauld, Sergeant-Major Lal Singh, and Mr. J. Spooner.

The presents took the form of a gold watch and a silver-mounted walking-stick for Mr. Mackie, a handsome silver tea-service for Mrs. Mackie, and a gold scarf-pin and silver-mounted walking-stick for Master Willie Mackie—from the European members of the Police Force and Magistrates; also a fine silver kettle from the Indian members of the Force. On the watch appeared the inscription: "Presented by the European members of the Hongkong Police and the Magistrates to Chief Inspector A. Mackie on his retirement from the Force: 15th April, 1903." A similar inscription appeared on the tea-service, while that on the kettle presented by the Indian members read as follows:—"Presented to Mr. A. Mackie, Chief Inspector of the Hongkong Police, by the members of the Indian contingent as a token of their esteem, on the occasion of his retirement from the Force on the 15th April, 1903."

Captain LYONS, addressing the company, said they had assembled there to offer Mr. Mackie a memento of his services with the Police. The presents had been subscribed for by the European members of the Force together with some European friends of Mr. Mackie, and one of them had been subscribed for by the Indian Police. He need not, he thought, give them the history of Mr. Mackie's career, for it was well known to most of them. Such a long record of service in the Police was, he supposed, unknown, and

certainly it was a record in itself. It was with very great regret they had to bid Mr. Mackie good-bye. However, these things would happen and it was a very good thing that he could now retire in the prime of life on a good pension. He would ask Mr. Mackie to accept the souvenirs for himself and his wife, not forgetting the walking-stick for his son—but not to be used on him, he hoped (laughter). They all wished Mr. Mackie long life to enjoy his pension, and they hoped he would long keep in memory the Hongkong Police. (Applause.)

Mr. MACKIE in response thanked Captain Lyons for the kind remarks he had made. If he had a record service in Hongkong, he thought he had also got a record present, for he did not remember, during his 31 years' service, anyone being made the recipient of such fine souvenirs, and he thanked them all very much for them. The Police Force had greatly changed since he came out to Hongkong 31 years ago. The compound then was gravel on which they had to drill; now it was cemented and made into nice tennis-courts. The Europeans, and he might say the whole of the Police Force, were on a far better footing as regards pay and comfort than what they were when he arrived. In a Police career it greatly depended upon what one made it, and speaking to the younger members of the Force he would advise them to pay strict attention to all orders and regulations and not be reported for small petty breaches of barracks regulations, for it was a very annoying thing for a young man to have to attend the defaulters' parade for any small thing. He was sure that any one with an average amount of intelligence had no need to retire from the Police Force here under the rank of Inspector (hear, hear). On behalf of Mrs. Mackie—whom he wished had been present, for she could probably have thanked them better than he could—he could only say that she would be highly pleased with her present. He was sorry in many ways to leave Hongkong, but he wanted a holiday and at his time of life it was scarcely worth while returning to the Police Force. He wished them all good-bye, and he hoped they would all live to earn their pension and enjoy it after it was earned. (Applause.) Addressing the Indian members of the Force, Mr. Mackie thanked them for their kindness. He remembered that when he arrived they had some of the old Lucknow warriors there, and amongst them was Sergeant Dulab Singh, one of the most powerful Indians he ever saw. These men were very much interested when they heard that the others and he came from Scotland—Sir Colin Campbell's country. Dulab Singh worshipped Sir Colin Campbell and always salaamed when his name was mentioned. He had taken a great deal of interest in the Indian Force. When he was a young Inspector at Stanley and Shaukiwan—they had not so much drill in those days—he used to make it a practice, instead of letting them sleep all the time, to take them out swimming and make them engage in all sorts of athletic sports, with the result that quite a rivalry in these things arose between them and the Chinese, and very few of them had to go to Hospital. He thanked them again for their kindness. (Applause.)

Captain LYONS afterwards proposed the health of Mr. Mackie and wished him long life, a toast which was cordially drunk.

The proceedings ended with three hearty cheers and a "tiger" for Mr. Mackie, led by Captain Lyons.

Thirty houses were destroyed and five badly injured by a fire which broke out at Shanghai on the 6th inst. The fire broke out in the Shanse Road, close to Peking Corner. The insurances on the affected property amount to more than Tls. 13,000. Nos. 151-155, Shanse Road and 151-160, Peking Road are Chinese-owned, but 161-165, Peking Road are the property of Messrs E. D. Sassoon & Co. Messrs. Lester & Co. own Nos. 1220-41, Peking Road and 156-161, Shanse Road. Nos. 140-146, Shanse Road are the property of Messrs. Dowdall, Hanson and McNeill, and that firm also owns 1241, Peking Road. It is some time since there has been a fire of such magnitude in the Settlements, the *N.-C. Daily News* says.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO AN EUROPEAN.

FALLS OVER A CLIFF.

A serious accident occurred to one of a party of Europeans who were walking on the Jubilee Road on the 12th inst. At a point on the road they stopped, and Sanitary Inspector O'Donnelly, the one who met with the mishap, crossed over near the edge to select a place whereon he and his friends might rest. He was standing on some newly-laid turf and had just uttered the words, "Here is a nice place to sit," when the turf gave way and threw Inspector O'Donnelly off his feet. For the first six feet or so of the descent the slope was not a steep one, but after that it was almost a sheer fall into the sea. Inspector O'Donnelly had no chance to regain his feet, and he rolled head over heels for a distance of some fifty feet, when a tree fortunately arrested his progress and saved him from what must have been almost certain death, for he was now insensible and could have done nothing to save himself had he fallen into the water, which is deep all along the foot of the hill. Two other European members of the Sanitary Board, Inspector O'Keefe and Senior Inspector Conolly, were of the party, and they descended the hill and succeeded after great difficulty in getting the unconscious man to the top. Whilst they were doing their best to bring him round another European rode up on horseback, and when the situation had been explained to him he galloped off to the nearest police station, whence a telephonic message was transmitted to the Central Station. From there an ambulance was sent to the scene of the accident, but before it reached the spot a carriage containing several Chinese gentlemen came across the group on Jubilee Road. Very obligingly the occupants descended and allowed the injured man to be placed in the vehicle, which some distance farther on met the oncoming ambulance. Inspector O'Donnelly, who had been taken in hand by the European ward-master of the Government Civil Hospital, was transferred to the ambulance and conveyed to the hospital, where he is progressing favourably, it is stated, despite the serious injuries he sustained to his head and body.

PLAGUE CASE FROM HONGKONG.

The following is from the *Bangkok Times*:—Bangkok must be considered lucky in having kept plague out all these years. A case of genuine bubonic plague was discovered on a Bangkok-bound steamer on 24th ult., and probably that is the nearest the danger has come to the port so far. Fortunately the Medical Officer of Health happened to be on board himself, returning from his trip to Hongkong, and it is satisfactory to know that there is no danger of the disease being introduced into the town from that case. The *Phra Chom Klao* left Hongkong for Bangkok on the 17th ult., having on board some 40 or 50 Chinese deck passengers. When the vessel was nearing the bar on the afternoon of Tuesday of that week, Dr. H. Campbell Highet was informed that a Chinese coolie was ill. He visited the man, and found a well developed case of bubonic plague. The man was evidently dying then and he did die a few hours later, when the vessel was lying outside the bar. All his few belongings were taken and wrapped round the body, which was duly weighted and buried in the sea. Dr. Highet then directed that the *Phra Chom Klao* should cross the bar with the tide and go up to Paknam. On arriving there the European passengers were allowed to land, and Dr. Highet sent the quarantine officer with the steamer back to Koh Pai, where she will stay till it is seen if there is any danger of further cases of plague developing. The coolies have been landed on the island.

The other day there was a suspicious death on board the *Loosok*, and in view of the whole circumstances we understand that quarantine will be re-established at Koh Pai forthwith. With regard to the fatal case on the *Phra Chom Klao* there seems a little doubt that the man had the germs of the disease when he came on board at Hongkong.

EXPLOSION OF A POWDER MAGAZINE AT CANTON.

MANY PERSONS KILLED AND INJURED.

Canton, 11th April.

On Good Friday at 2.40 p.m. the inhabitants of Canton were startled by a tremendous explosion. A large volume of smoke was seen to be rising in the shape of a balloon from a point some distance to the N.E. of the city, and it was evident that a powder-magazine had exploded—a not uncommon occurrence in China.

The writer immediately set out for the scene of the disaster, and on reaching the small N. gate, found a continuous string of Chinese hurrying towards the scene of the disaster. After walking about a mile towards the low hills, from behind which smoke was still rising, indications of the magnitude of the explosion began to appear.

Peasants carrying blackened beams and other wreckage, the roof of a house broken in, a blackened and groaning survivor staggering along, and finally several coffins being carried towards a point over the brow of a hill about two miles outside the small North gate of the city, all told a sad tale.

The powder magazine was called Yung Tai, and was in the district called Ho Yo Ch'ü. It covered an area of over an acre, and this space was a confused mass of bricks and beams, from which smoke was still issuing in dense clouds an hour after the explosion. Under the ruins is buried an unknown number of soldiers; several who had been guarding the magazine had already been dug out, but workmen were still busy digging.

About three hundred yards from the ruins an unfortunate coolie was lying, who had been blown some distance, and was suffering from a fractured thigh and minor injuries. A dense crowd of Chinese surrounded him, and though he had lain there for an hour, they had not given him so much as a drink of water. This was soon put to rights, however, and by dint of vigorous bambooing the crowd were forced to stand back. A German missionary was doing very good work, and probably saved two or three lives, as he was provided with bandages. The Chinese seemed unable to help. It does not occur to them that there are little ways of alleviating suffering without possessing any knowledge of surgery, and they wait for a doctor or a foreigner to appear.

Some of the wounded were mangled beyond description. Twenty-three were attended by Dr. Swan, who arrived at about 5 p.m. Most of the injured were suffering from shock, for the force of the explosion must have been terrific. A wall, formerly ten feet high, which girdled the magazine, had been cut down as it were with a knife two feet from the ground. Not a leaf remained on any tree within a hundred yards of the place.

The number of the dead is as yet unknown, but is probably not above twenty. The sufferers are receiving the best of attention at Dr. Swan's hospital at Kuk Fou, where they were conveyed during the night.

A correspondent writes from Canton:—With reference to the explosion of the Wing-Chai powder magazine on the 10th inst. various explanations are suggested as to the cause. One suggestion is that it was due to the carelessness of the soldiers at the magazine; another that some of the rebels set fire to it; but the story that bears a nearer approximation to the truth is that as the Acting Viceroy Tak Sow had some information that certain weiyuns who were taking charge of the magazine had misappropriated a large quantity of powder, and could not give an account of the same, His Excellency had ordered a weiyun, Lao Ching Tai, to go and make an examination. The latter appointed 4 o'clock in the afternoon of Friday to make the examination, and it was shortly after two p.m. (before he went there) that the disaster occurred. It is believed that one of the weiyuns had set fire to it to cover his defalcation. Over a hundred casks of powder were discovered buried under the ground unburned, and they have been removed by order of the Viceroy to another magazine beyond the East gate.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 10th April.

THE ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE.

The Chinese have during the last week been enjoying their annual excursion to the tombs of their ancestors on the surrounding hills, and every day crowded steamers and passage boat, have been disgorging their pilgrims bound for the North and East gates of the City. At this time the tombs of earth or stone are garnished and cleaned, the departed relations are provided with food and drink in case they require it, and paper is burned in their honour.

IMPROVING THE POLICE FORCE.

The recent efforts of the Prefect and other officials to promote the efficiency of the police force have resulted in the appearance of many neat and well-equipped policemen in some of the main streets, but sometimes their not unjustifiable pride leads to excess of zeal. Yesterday in the North Gate Street a policeman was informed that a thief was running away; he accordingly produced his revolver and fired in what seemed to him a likely direction, hitting two bystanders, a man and a boy of 13, the former in the stomach and the latter in the leg. Unfortunately there was no adequate medical assistance available, and both died in the course of the day.

THE EXPLOSION AT THE ARSENAL.

As I write these words, the house is shaken as if by an earthquake, and a cloud of smoke is visible near the North gate: a powder magazine has just blown up in that direction, and no doubt many of the newly-imported arms and stores have been destroyed. Truly a typical instance of Chinese carelessness in such matters.

THE CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

The branch line of the Canton-Hankow railway, that from Canton to Fatsan, is making gradual progress, and several miles have been laid; but the commencement of the line from this end does not seem to be in view.

Canton, 11th April.

A CURIOUS STORY.

There is a good deal of talk about Hung Chün Fuk, the chief of the Triad Society, who, according to reports prevalent at the time was trying to raise rebellion on the Chinese New Year's Eve in Canton. It is said that spies were sent by Admiral Li Chou to Hongkong to inveigle the rebel chief. Having persuaded him to attend a feast they drugged him, put him into a wooden box and brought him in a steam-lunch to Canton. On the voyage he awoke, and forced open the box. His captors, who discovered it, immediately proceeded to strangle him to death. When his corpse was brought to Canton an inquest was held upon it by the Magistrates of Nam Hoi and Pun Yü, but there was no evidence to prove his identity. The spies had in fact sought to palm off another man for Hung Chün Fuk; and people know now that these machinations were devised by certain military officials seeking promotion.

EXTRADITION WANTED.

Another story much discussed here concerns a notorious robber or rebel, Lum Pak-kai, now in prison in Macao awaiting extradition, for whose apprehension, a reward of 20,000 taels had been offered by the officials. This reward, it was stated, would be proportionately divided among those who were instrumental in getting him handed over to the Chinese authorities for execution. Weiyuns have been sent to Macao to procure the extradition; but as usual in such cases the evidence is so conflicting that there is some hesitation in handing him over.

STEAMER ASHORE AT CHEFOO.

A telegram to the *Shanghai Mercury*, dated Chefoo, April 11th, states that the British steamer *Victoria* is ashore on Little Bamboo Island, with her holds full of water. The chief officer has arrived here in the lifeboat. Lloyd's agents here, Messrs. Curtis Bros., are endeavouring to procure assistance for her. This is probably the British steamer *Victoria*, 1,566 tons, Captain Casey, which has been running between Hongkong and the northern ports.

AMOY.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Amoy, 9th April.

MARRIAGE OF MR. A. CUMMING.

A very pretty wedding was celebrated in our little Union Church on the 6th instant, when Miss Mabel, the youngest daughter of Capt. Jack Saunders, was united in holy matrimony to Mr. Alexander Cumming, of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire. The service was conducted by the Rev. W. Macgregor. The church decorations were simple but effective. The bride was elegantly dressed in white satin and looked charming. Her train was held by two little pages in sailor costume. The two bridesmaids, Miss Saunders and Miss Linklater, wore pretty cream chiffon dresses with hats to match, and a wee dot of two years in white silk brought up the rear. Dr. O'Neill officiated as groomsmen. A reception was afterwards held at Capt. Sann's residence, where were displayed the many handsome presents that had been sent the happy couple. At four o'clock they left, amidst showers of rice, for Hongkong by the *Haitan*. The steamer was gay with bunting in honour of the occasion, and so were most of the boats in harbour.

MEN-OF-WAR ARRIVALS.

U.S.S. *Kentucky*, *New Orleans*, and *Helena* came in on the morning of the 6th instant and left hurriedly for the North the next day.

CHINA-BORNEO, CO. LD.

GENERAL MEETING.

A general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held on the 9th inst. at the offices, 4, Queen's Buildings, for the purpose of hearing a statement as to the manner in which the winding-up had been conducted. Mr. A. G. Wood occupied the chair, and the others present were Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., J. Wheeley (manager), G. C. C. Master (directors), Hart Buck, J. W. C. Bonnar, W. H. Wickham, O. Baptista, and Ieng Shui Lun. The notice calling the meeting, having been read.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, agreeably with the notice which has just been read I have the pleasure to inform you that the liquidators appointed at the meetings of 29th December and 14th January last have completed the winding-up of this Company by the transfer of its properties, business, and goodwill according to the terms of the resolution passed at our extraordinary meetings of the 11th and 27th October last, and accordingly 25,000 shares of \$12 fully paid in the new Chinese Borneo Co., Ltd., are now being distributed among the holders of shares in this Company in exchange for their shares at the rate of three new shares for every one old part-paid share and at the rate of four new shares for every one old fully-paid share. This absorbs 24,041 shares, leaving a balance of 959 shares to be dealt with. You are aware that the new Company acquired the properties, lands, buildings, business, goodwill and all assets and liabilities, contracts and engagements of this Company as from the 1st January, 1902, but this did not include the uncalled capital nor the dividend which was paid in March, 1902, in exchange for the 25,000 shares of \$12 each fully paid, representing \$300,000 in the new Company. The new Company having acquired the present one as from the 14th January, 1902, the accounts presented and passed at our meeting of the 1st March of that year represent the final accounts of the Company—the business of 1903 belonging to the new Company. As regards the 959 shares of \$12 each value \$11,508, these represent fractional shares which I have just mentioned. It will be necessary to deal with them by a special resolution which may, I trust, be to the following effect:—To the liquidators for their remuneration, \$3,000; to Mr. J. Wheeley for services rendered in London, \$1,000; to Mr. W. G. Darby for services rendered in Borneo, \$1,000, leaving a balance of \$6,508 in shares, and I recommend that these be left with the liquidators to sell by private sale or by tender as they think best, but not below par, and the proceeds to be distributed pro rata amongst the shareholders in the register on January 14th, 1903, the date of

the confirmatory meeting when it was resolved to wind the Company up. If any gentleman has any questions to ask I shall be pleased to answer them. (A pause.) There being no questions, I beg to propose that the balance of the 25,000 fully paid-up shares of the new Company to be allotted to the shareholders of the China Borneo Co., Limited (in liquidation), being fractional shares of such 25,000 shares, amounting in all to shares of the face value of \$11,508, be dealt with as follows:—That such shares be disposed of by sale (but not below their face value) in such manner as the liquidators shall think fit, and that the net proceeds of sale of such shares be disposed of as follows:—(a) The sum of \$3,000 to be handed to the liquidators as their remuneration for the winding-up of the Company and to be divided amongst them in such manner as they shall decide. (b) The sum of \$1,000 be handed to Mr. J. T. M. Wheelley for services rendered in London in connection with the transfer of the new Company, and in connection with the acquisition by the new Company of the properties and business in British North Borneo of the Borneo Hardwood Company, Limited. (c) The sum of \$1,000 be handed to Mr. W. G. Darby for similar services rendered in British North Borneo. (d) The balance derived from such sale as aforesaid to be distributed *pro rata* amongst the shareholders of the Company who appeared on the register of shareholders on the 14th day of January, 1903.

Mr. HART BUCK—I beg to second.

This was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—I beg to propose that the account submitted to this meeting and the explanations of the liquidators showing the manner in which the winding-up has been conducted and the property of the Company disposed of be received and adopted.

Mr. WICKHAM—I beg to second.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—I beg to propose that the books, accounts and documents of the Company and of the liquidators thereof be handed over to the general manager of the new Company to be dealt with by him as he shall see fit.

Mr. HART BUCK—I beg to second.

This was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—That terminates the business, gentlemen.

THE "SIBERIA" AT HOME.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Co.'s new liner *Siberia* was thrown open for public inspection on the 16th inst., and many hundreds of Hongkong residents took the opportunity of viewing the magnificent leviathan. Between two and five o'clock launches ran at short intervals from Blake Pier. On board, the visitors were treated with the utmost hospitality and Captain Tremaine Smith and his officers were assiduous in their attention upon them. For the new ship one can have nothing but admiration. As one nears her in a launch, the first thing remarkable is her enormous bulk and the height at which she stands out of the water. Once on board the visitor finds much to attract his attention. The fine promenade and hurricane decks, the luxurious cabins and state-rooms, and the general excellence and modernity of the appointments from keel to truck claim in turn the interested inspection of everyone who views the vessel. As is already pretty well known, the *Siberia* is a sister ship of the *Korea*. Her tonnage is, 11,184 tons in all. Her speed is said to be about two knots more than the *Korea's*, and, although it would be difficult to make the *Korea's* people admit that soft impeachment, it is a matter of fact that certain minor deficiencies in arrangement which the *Korea* evinced after launching have been rectified in the later vessel put out from the Newport News Shipbuilding Yard. In the course of the afternoon music was dispensed by the band of the 33rd Burma. It is worthy of note that during the day the *Siberia* was flying at the main a flag—the Company's flag—said to be the largest ever displayed in Hongkong Harbour and measuring 35 feet in length. The U.S. flag, the British flag, the American Jack and the customary burgee were also in evidence. The *Siberia* sailed on Saturday last.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THOUGHTS ON THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 8th April.

SIR.—I have been waiting in expectation of seeing an abler pen than mine furnish a reply to Mr. Gershom Stewart's long letter which appeared in the *Daily Press* of the 28th ult., but a no reply has been forthcoming, I beg leave to offer a few remarks on the subject.

Mr. Stewart's letter contains scarcely anything that has not already been dealt with by those who take the opposite view. He starts with the assumption that "we all agree that low exchange is disagreeable to the foreigner"—an idea which I would point out is entirely erroneous. What in fact is disagreeable to the foreigner, no less than to the Chinaman, is not the low exchange, if only it is kept steady, but the violently fluctuating exchange, however high it may run; and the disadvantages accruing from an unstable exchange have already been fully discussed in the *Daily Press* and need not be touched upon again.

The chief reason of the present low exchange, Mr. Stewart goes on to tell us, is China's demand of gold to meet her liabilities. This is no new revelation to us; it is a question of supply and demand. But does the question of China's indemnity form the last chapter in the history of the continually widening chasm between the two metals, or is it only an incident?

Mr. Stewart suggests concerted action to get China adopt a gold currency. It would no doubt be a grand thing if it could be accomplished. But a question which has failed to find unanimity amongst an intelligent community in a small colony like this is hardly likely to be better received by a people whose existence is bound up with the worst traditions of Oriental misgovernment, and behind whom stand the whole latent force of popular superstition and unreasoning conservatism.

That we all feel the existence of a disease in our monetary system, there is no denying. The consumptive dollar is merely wasting away. But while there is entire agreement as to the existence of the disease, a divergence of opinion prevails as to whether or not it is possible or advisable to eradicate it. Some say its eradication would be fatal, for trade would leave us. Others say its eradication will restore vigour and health: in other words, expansion of trade. At this juncture, a diagnosis of the disease becomes necessary, and a movement in the right direction was set afoot to appoint a Commission to hold an enquiry on the subject. The removal of evil cannot prove beneficial to all members of a community, whatever be the social question, as witness the druggist making money in time of sickness, the lawyer in time of strife, the undertaker in time of epidemics, the grain-cornier merchant in time of famine, etc. In a question like the present, one cannot say that the redress asked by the community will be beneficial to all. "The greatest good for the greatest number" is the great desideratum, and we are confident that the Commission of Inquiry, unbiassed as it will be, will arrive at a result satisfactory to the majority.

Mr. Stewart's criticism of the pounds, shillings, and pence suggestion of Mr. Osborne was quite unnecessary, as the latter did not include this question in his resolution nor did he mean to force it on the mind of the public. He preferred to leave it to the final decision of the Commission. But as Mr. Stewart seems to find great difficulty in solving the problem of the conversion of our monetary system into a gold standard, I venture to suggest a scheme for consideration. (See below.)

When Mr. Stewart advises us to invest our savings in gold, or remit half in gold and keep half in silver, and so hedge against a big loss owing to falling exchange, it is scarcely possible to believe that Mr. Stewart has seriously considered its significance. One would suppose that an expansionist of Mr. Stewart's type would be the last to advocate the removal of

capital from our business centre for investment in foreign gold countries. The means whereby to trade, expand and increase in wealth, we are now asked to withdraw from our immediate control and invest for a small and limited return in the shape of fixed and low interest. And all this for what? Rather than introduce reform in our monetary system and remove the last vestige of obstruction to trade, we are recommended to divert our resources to other unproductive channels, or in the last resort go through the process of hedging. But will "hedging" improve matters? To me it seems like saying to a man: "Rather than seek a safe boat, put a life-belt round your waist and hedge yourself against stormy weather."

Again, Mr. Stewart believes that with a gold standard in Hongkong, our outports might draw their supplies from Shanghai instead. He must be alluding here to foreign imported goods, and that being so I would point out that the cost of these being in gold, fluctuates in silver according to the rate of exchange, and therefore makes no difference in value that will invite competition between the two ports.

With regard to the very alarming picture drawn by Mr. Stewart of the change in the relative position of the Banks and the general public, which in his opinion would follow the adoption of a gold standard, one would think that the end would surely come and Hongkong would dwindle back to its former state of insignificance as a resort for fishermen, or at best be but a stronghold of imperial defence. If we were the first and only country to initiate a gold currency the difficulties depicted by Mr. Stewart would doubtless form obstructions to our progress. In every movement there are pessimists who by natural disposition or through other causes cannot be made to see the bright side of things. The question at issue must be weighed and considered in all its bearings and should not be dismissed because of some apparent disadvantages. If the result of the Commission be found to side with the change in our monetary system because of preponderating advantages, we must necessarily abide by their final decision and think no more of the minor disadvantages. There is no such a thing in the world—at least not to our knowledge—as absolute good. We must all be guided by the principle of the "greatest good for the greatest number." Other countries have made the change and succeeded, and why should we prove an exception?

Finally, if Mr. Stewart admits that if China goes gold we shall enjoy immunity from all those objectionable consequences which would follow our adoption of gold, we would still like to know what difference it would make in our relative position with the Banks in the matter of converting our account from silver to gold, whether we go gold singly or jointly with China?—Yours, etc.,

J. R. MICHAEL.

SCHEME.

1. The Government to call in British dollars, clean ones only, not chopped or tampered with, within the space of, say, six or twelve months; to pay for same either in new gold dollar notes to be issued by the Government temporarily, or Bank demand rate on London.

2. These dollars to be marked or chopped by the Government and offered to the Chinese at a little above silver value, as China will always require some dollars to trade with, whether Mexican, Spanish, or even yen.

3. What remains, to be melted and used for new token dollars.

4. A slight loss will result to the Government which will be greatly compensated by the large profit from the coinage of the new dollar.

5. The Government to mint a new silver dollar to be nominated, say, a 2s. dollar, but to contain silver to the extent of 1s. 4d. only, and other alloy to bring the weight to 418 grains—the weight of the present dollar.

6. The mintage of such dollars to be limited to, say, 25 millions in silver, to be minted in instalments of 5 millions as they may be required.

7. That notes be ordered to be issued by local Bank or Banks, to the extent of 15 millions, representing such 2s. dollars, which is considered sufficient to replace the silver notes.

8. The difference in coining the new dollars, which contain 1s. 4d., and would be sold for and

be used at the rate of 2s., 8d. per dollar, or £333,333.

9. This difference of £333,333, less the loss sustained by melting the British dollars, to be invested in first-class gold security whether consols or Indian loans, and to be kept as a permanent reserve at compound interest, as a guarantee in case of silver seriously declining even below the issue price of the dollar.

10. With such a handsome reserve about a third of the value, no Government should shrink from guaranteeing the dollar as 2s.

11. The new dollars to be the only legal tender and to be sold to all Banks and others at the rate of 2s. or \$10 to £1.

12. A Bank should be appointed as the Hongkong Government Bank—say the present corporation of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—where gold can be exchanged for the new dollars, and new dollars to gold exchange of 2s. plus or minus slight differences arising from the stringency or easiness in the money market.

13. All debts, mortgages, shares, stocks, loans to be changed in face value in proportion to the fixity of the present dollar to the gold silver dollar.

THE CHINESE PETITION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 15th April.

SIR,—As one of the signatories of the Chinese Petition to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies praying for an extension of His Excellency the Governor's term of office and also as one who is chiefly responsible for the drafting thereof, I venture to ask you to be so good as to allow me space in your valuable columns to enable me to make some observations in reply to the various criticisms and remarks which your contemporaries and certain correspondents have thought fit to pass upon it.

As a preliminary observation, permit me to state that the Petition in question is not the creation of a few leading Chinese as alleged, but is the outcome of a very general and strong desire among the Chinese of all classes to keep H. E. the Governor with them for another term of office. Any one who cares to make enquiries among his Chinese friends and acquaintances will soon discover the accuracy of this statement. Even your correspondent, Mr. Ho Kom-Tong, who, with his friends, objects only to the inclusion of a part of a sentence in paragraph 8 of the Petition having reference to the fact that Sir Henry Blake has, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, sanctioned the institution of a high school for the sons and daughters of the upper classes of the Chinese, writes at the very end of his communication to you that the object of the Petition has the unanimous approval of the Chinese community. I beg to quote his very words: "With the object of the Petition I emphatically assert the Chinese are entirely at one, but with the inclusion of this school clause opinions do not entirely concur."

To continue, permit me to assure the European community that there was never any thought on the part of the Chinese or of the framers of the Petition of giving them any offence, nor was there any intention on their part to create ill-feeling or unpleasantness between the European and Chinese sections of this community. If there had been the slightest suspicion or indication of such a thought or intention, I would have positively refused to lend my assistance in any way, but would have done my utmost to suppress it. Since my return to this Colony from England, now more than 21 years ago, and soon after the Hennessy régime, it has been my chief object and anxious endeavour to promote friendly relationship, perfect understanding, and cordial co-operation between the British and Chinese inhabitants of the Colony, on all of which, in my humble opinion, the prosperity of this Colony so largely depends.

In the drafting of this Petition, I have purposely and carefully avoided all allusions and statements which might be in any way offensive or objectionable, and I think I have been successful in making no allegation which is not literally true and capable of proof; and

therefore, I am at a loss to account for the charges that the Petition is a "barefaced attempt by a few of the Chinese to control the affairs of this Colony," and that "the Petition contains a number of mis-statements of fact which have aroused the indignation of a large section of the European community." You have a copy of the Petition before you, and even at the risk of trespassing somewhat too lengthily on the space of your paper, I must endeavour to prove to you, taking the Petition paragraph by paragraph, that there is no foundation whatsoever for the charges made against it.

Paragraphs 1 and 2 contain a description of the petitioners and the nature and extent of their interests in the Colony. I can conceive no objection to these paragraphs.

Paragraph 3 states that past administrations were characterised by justice and ability, for which the Chinese are duly grateful; there cannot possibly be any objection to that surely.

Paragraphs 4 and 5 state that Sir Henry Blake's administration was the most appreciated and admired by the Chinese and that in consequence they seek for a continuation of his administration, especially at this troublous time. I am confident no one will gainsay this.

Paragraph 6 requires no comment as it serves only as a connecting paragraph.

Paragraph 7 needs scarcely any remark as all the institutions are either completed and open to the public, or are in the course of erection, except the projected Chinese Maternity Hospital, the building of which will, I trust, be commenced within the next fortnight. Subscriptions to the various charities promoted by His Excellency call for no further remark on my part than that I beg to refer most of your readers, especially the Chinese, to a perusal of their pass-books or account-books for the last five years.

In support of paragraph 8, I need only mention the establishment of the Kowloon School for European children and the pending conversion of the Belilos Reformatory for the same purpose; the institution of High schools for the sons and daughters of the Chinese which was sanctioned by the Secretary of State for the Colonies (*vide* his despatch No. 408 dated the 6th December, 1901, and may now be considered a *fait accompli*; the endowment of the College of Medicine for the Chinese by the Government with an annual sum of \$2,500; and the adoption of most of the recommendations of the Educational Committee which are about to be put into force.

Paragraph 9: That the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance has been passed in an immensely improved form after the return of Sir Henry Blake will be generally acknowledged by both Europeans and Chinese alike. I need not enumerate the many effective and reasonable sanitary measures adopted during the last five years, as these are well known to everyone and are being carried out daily by the Sanitary authorities. The question as to whether these measures were initiated by His Excellency or whether he was advised to adopt them, or even according to some, "has been moved by outside agitation" into adopting them, is immaterial here. Nor need I touch upon the opening of the Government Dispensaries in the New Territory and at Wanchai or upon the New Bacteriological Department under the superintendence of Mr. W. Hunter, or upon the employment of Chinese trained in Western Medical Science in this Department and in the Wanchai and New Territory Dispensaries and other places; or upon the establishment of public bath-houses in Taipingshan and elsewhere, or upon the conservation of open spaces—the latest instance of which is the proposed reservation as a public park of the resumed area in Taipingshan next to the new wing of the Tung Wah—or upon the training of the many and various nullahs which has been carried out and is now still being carried out. With the statement in this paragraph concerning the increase of the water storage and the better regulation of water supply I will, for the sake of convenience, not touch upon until I come to deal with paragraph 13 of the Petition.

In connection with paragraph 10 so far as it deals with my statements concerning the New

Territory, I beg to refer you to the Reports on the New Territory published by the Government printers in the years 1900, 1901 and 1902, from a perusal of which you will gather that my statements are correct. But as regards your remarks concerning the neglect in the collection of Crown rent on the part of the Government which I, however, did not touch upon in the Petition, I have nevertheless, in view of your severe criticism, made certain enquiries from an official source and now beg to lay the result of my investigation for the information of the public.

It appears that the original scheme for the collection of Crown rent as announced by His Excellency in August, 1900, could not be carried out effectively on account of the extreme reluctance on the part of the owners and occupiers of land in the New Territory to pay rent before their claims had been demarcated, investigated into, and allowed by the Land Court. And in order to effect such collection, the only remedy, I understand, which could be resorted to by the Government was by distraint, and in order to distraint for rent one must have a rent-roll and must be able to identify by map each plot of land on the rent-roll. Furthermore, the Government has found from actual experience that to execute the distraint-warrants in the New Territory under these circumstances involved a lengthy process and necessitated the employment of a large staff of men. Thus it will be seen that the small amount of revenue derivable from this source has apparently not been the outcome of official neglect as alleged, but is due to the enormous difficulties of discovering the occupiers or owners and compelling them by legal process to make payment.

In regard to the improvement and augmentation of the Police Force, I beg to refer you to the Reports of the Captain Superintendent of Police for the years 1899 to 1902; a careful perusal of the statements and figures therein contained would soon justify the assertions contained in this paragraph concerning this force. The numerical strength of the Police Force has been increased since the 17th April, 1899, from 630 to 919 at the end of 1902. Concerning the improvement and augmentation of the District Watchmen force, it is true that between the years 1897 and 1903 the numerical strength had only been slightly increased, from 66 to 74, but it must be borne in mind that this force is only an adjunct force and kept up entirely by the voluntary subscriptions of the Chinese ratepayers. This force has been re-organised and is now centralised in one building under the supervision of a resident European sergeant of the Police Force. I may add that as a precautionary measure a detective branch consisting of 10 members has already been sanctioned and is soon to be added to this force.

In dealing with the point of the stern suppression of secret societies I think I cannot do better than by quoting certain extracts from the Reports of the Captain Superintendent of Police for the years 1899 and 1900. In the report of 1899 under the heading of "Triad Society" the following paragraph appears:—"7. This Society became very active in the New Territory during the summer, the object of the leading members being apparently to enrich themselves at the expense of law-abiding people. Subscriptions for the Society were freely demanded to support, as the victims were made to believe, a rebellion against the British, and threats were used when other means to obtain money failed. Endeavours to induce people to inform against their persecutors were unsuccessful, so great is the terror inspired by the Society. A raid, therefore, was made simultaneously at five different places in the New Territory in October, and several important arrests were made. The fishermen at Kat O, a village on Crescent Island in Mira Bay, had been greatly harassed by the Society, and the Police were fortunate enough to arrest two leading members of the Society there, and to get evidence of robbery and rape against one, who was convicted at the December Sessions and sentenced to 9 years' imprisonment with hard labour; and of robbery against the other, who was also convicted and sentenced to 2 years' imprisonment with hard labour. Two other prominent members of the Society were arrested with insignia or writings of the Society in their possession, convicted of being members of the Triad Society,

and sent to gaol. These arrests and convictions had a beneficial effect, but the Society requires to be closely watched." And from the Report of 1900 under a similar heading the following sentence occurs:—"Nine men were charged with being members of this Society 5 of whom were convicted and 4 discharged."

Taking into consideration the above extracts need I add anything further than a reminder of the recent activities of the Police in connection with the events just before the present Chinese New Year?

In regard to the deportation of hardened criminals and dangerous characters, the following official returns for the last 10 years will be of interest to your readers:

Year.	Number banished.
1893	240
1894	226
1895	244
1896	255
1897	251
1898	263
1899	311
1900	249
1901	281
1902	177

And as regards mendicants, paragraph 17 of the report of the Captain Superintendent of Police for 1902 will be of equal interest:—"17. These beggars were dealt with by the Police Magistrate and 3 were sent to the Tung Wah Hospital. 74 were summarily deported to Canton."

As to the remarks that "during the last 5 years the increase in 'serious offences' in the Colony has been 30 per cent, compared with the figures for the previous 5 years," I should like to point out that according to the census taken in 1897 the Chinese population of this Colony amounted to 241,762 and in 1901 the number had increased to 274,810, and in 1902 the native population according to the report of the Registrar General amounted to 293,300, showing an increase of the native population in Hongkong alone in 5 years of no less than 51,538. To this number, however, must be added the estimated population of the New Territory amounting to a figure of 102,254 thereby totalling an increase of Chinese population which has come under the British jurisdiction within the last 5 years of no less than 153,792, that is to say an increase of 64 per cent. Taking this very large increase of population into consideration, an increase of crime of 30 per cent., though serious enough, is not to be wondered at, but it is rather a matter for congratulation that the increase of crime has not kept pace proportionately with the increase of the population.

In dealing with this question one must always bear in mind the extent of the vast area of the New Territory, the difficulties of policing it and of communication, the turbulent nature and ignorance of some of its inhabitants, and the short period which has elapsed since its inhabitants came under the British rule; but there is no reason to doubt why crime there should not in time be reduced to a minimum as soon as the organisation of the Government is placed on a more thorough working basis.

As to the fact that during 1902 there was an increase of cases reported to the Police of 13.61 per cent. over those of 1901, it should be pointed out that the bulk of this increase consists of petty larceny or stealing and in unlawful possession and burglary or larceny in dwellings, whereas the number of cases of robbery with violence from the person has decreased from 82 to 66, that is to say, a decrease of close upon 20 per cent. It cannot be contended for a moment that petty larceny is such a serious offence as robbery with violence. A decrease in the latter shows the condition of the Colony in a much more favourable light than a decrease in the former; and an increase of cases of larceny in a place does not show the want of care and vigilance of the police as the increase of cases of robbery with violence. It can be fairly contended that a great many cases of larceny in dwellings and from the person could have been prevented by the exercise of due care on the part of the individual from whom the property was stolen, but that on the other hand, nothing but a well organised and effective police force could have kept down an increase of cases of robbery with violence. It can be readily understood that in consequence of the drought last year,

and the scarcity of food stuff, and the disturbed condition in the neighbouring provinces, a large number of penurious persons have been driven to this Colony to look for a living, and there cannot be any doubt that the advent of this class of persons has greatly increased and reinforced the rank of pilferers. It is open to doubt that the best organised police force in the world could have prevented these cases of petty larceny committed by the class indicated until the causes which have driven them to this Colony have been removed. To suggest however that the police could have reduced this number by deportation is simply a misconception of the working of the Banishment Ordinance. The powers conferred upon His Excellency by this Ordinance are no doubt very large, but it must be recollected that before a person is banished or deported, it must be brought in some way to the notice of the Governor that the person is a hardened criminal, or a dangerous character, or a professional gambler, or a confirmed mendicant. As it can be gathered from what I have stated before, the increase in the population between 1901 and 1902 was over 18,000 and in 1902, before the Criminal Statistics were made up, it would have been most difficult if not impossible to foretell what number of these persons should be banished or deported in order to preserve the peace and good order of the Colony. With the statistics now before the public the Government will doubtless exercise the power of deportation very much more freely in this year than they have ever done hitherto during past years.

The contents of paragraph 11 stating that unbroken relations with the local Government at Canton had been maintained frequently under very trying circumstances, etc., etc., have never to my knowledge been called into question, and I may be excused in passing it over without comment.

The statements in paragraph 12 express the opinion of the petitioners regarding the probable workings and results of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, and need not be enlarged upon. Therefore, I may safely also be allowed to pass it over without any further remark.

In dealing with paragraph 13 stating that provision had been made "for a largely increased supply of water to the Colony by further arrangements for its conserving and distribution" and also the statement in paragraph 9 regarding the "increase of the water storage and the better regulation of the water supply," I do not think that I can do greater justice to these questions than by following as nearly as possible the wording of an official minute on this subject which I have been courteously permitted to peruse:—

One of the additional reservoirs in the Tytam drainage area recommended in Mr. Cooper's Report of the 9th May, 1896, is being carried out. The work is progressing satisfactorily and would have been further advanced had not a portion of the foundations of the dam required to be carried to a considerably greater depth than was anticipated on account of the unsatisfactory nature of the material met with in excavating. Arrangements were in progress for proceeding with another of the reservoirs recommended by Mr. Cooper, but the proposal was vetoed by Mr. Chadwick, who advised the adoption of a scheme for pumping water from a reservoir to be constructed at Tytam Tuk, which would render available a large additional catchment area. The scheme contemplated is a very large one, involving the construction of a dam within the tidal area of the bay or inlet and capable of containing 1,000 million gallons of water or more. Surveys and trial works have been in progress continuously since Mr. Chadwick's departure, but many difficulties have been encountered, including malarial fever of a severe type among those engaged upon the work. It is hoped that reliable data will be obtained shortly regarding the depth at which the rock, which is visible on either shore of the bay, will be met with, when a scheme will be prepared for submission to the Secretary of State. A number of minor works for increasing the water supply have been carried out, including a new catchwater, channels to convey to the reservoirs the dry weather flow of the streams intercepted by the old catchwaters, and an alteration in the Tytam-West catchwater which will double its delivery into the reservoirs during heavy rains.

Concerning the distribution of water, I may simply mention that the Water Ordinance was passed last year for the better regulation and distribution of the water supply of the Colony and the proposed distribution of water by the rider-main system.

As to provision for the housing and spread of the Chinese working classes, the following information which I have gleaned may be of public interest. Eighteen months ago (September, 1901) a plot of land was sold by the Government at Taioktsui for the erection of model dwellings, for the housing of Chinese working classes. The plan was devised by the Honorable the Director of Public Works and was submitted to and approved by the Sanitary Board. Various lots at Tsimeatsui and several lots of ground situated in Kowloon and elsewhere had also been sold by the Government under the same conditions and for the erection of similar class of dwellings. I understand that more lots are to be sold in the near future for the same purpose.

Coming to the final paragraph of the Petition touching upon the unsatisfactory condition of the local monetary currency, and the disturbed and unsettled state of Southern China, I do not propose to dilate upon it lest I may raise an unnecessary alarm in the Colony, but I may be allowed to point out this, that in the opinion of those best able to judge from the trend of events in China, a crisis may at any time occur which will tax to the utmost the strength and the diplomatic skill and tact of the various branches of His Majesty's Government in this Colony and China. I may further point out that if the statement that "no Governor however good will have it in his hands to deal with currency" is unanswerable then where is the utility of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce and some of the influential and leading Chinese addressing H.E. the Governor on the subject?

Referring to the criticism that His Excellency has not "pressed forward the many and important administrative improvements of which the Colony has long stood in need," and touching on the Post Offices, the Law Courts, and the Blake Clock Tower, the following facts which I have been able to elicit on these subjects may prove to be of general interest:—

Blake Clock Tower: In his despatch No. 201 of 3rd June, 1901, the Governor recommended the new Clock Tower very strongly and asked for a telegraphic reply; the reply is contained in the Secretary of State's telegram of the 11th July, 1901. The total estimated cost of the work was \$102,367 and a sum of \$25,000 was provisionally inserted in the 1902 Estimates for the work, but the enormous expenditure on more pressing public works and on plague appeared to have prevented the carrying out of the work as no funds were available; for the same reasons this work was omitted from the draft estimates for this year.

Post Office: A full history of the various proposals which had been made with a view of providing a building more in accordance with the requirements of the Colony than the existing one was given in the Governor's Despatch No. 9 of 1902 (Sessional Paper No. 16 of 1902) in which a scheme was put forward for the acquisition of a site which would enable the work to be gone on with at once instead of awaiting the completion of the Law Courts. In accordance with the recommendations of past committees, which have dealt with the matter, competitive designs have been invited from local architects, including those in the neighbouring ports of Shanghai and Singapore. The designs were to be sent in at the end of the current month, but the time was extended to one month at the request of some of the local architects. The scheme now in hand will enable the new Post Office to be completed at least 5 years earlier than that formerly arranged.

Law Courts: The site of the building is partly on land reclaimed under Ordinance No. 16 of 1889 and partly on old ground. The latter was believed to be solid at the depth to which the masonry foundations extended, but this was found not to be the case and piling had to be resorted to. It was also considered desirable to make some alterations in the basement forming the chamber for the heating apparatus and, as this is situated partly below tide-level, the work was troublesome and had to be carried out. The contractor for the foundations did not, it appeared, prove to be

altogether satisfactory, as a quantity of defective work done by him had to be taken down and rebuilt. The overseer who allowed this work to be done—a man appointed locally—was discharged. These matters combined cause very considerable delay in the completion of the foundations.

Tenders for the superstructure were called for in December last. Of those received only one was reasonable in amount, but enquiries made regarding the contractor who submitted it elicited such unfavourable replies that it was felt impossible to accept it. Negotiations were entered into with some of the other contractors with a view of getting them to reduce their tenders to a reasonable amount, but without any material success, and arrangements are now being made to carry out the work departmentally.

Having now dealt with the Petition paragraph by paragraph and having touched upon several public works and matters of public interest, I should like to make a few observations regarding the Petition after its initial stage. A few days after the completion of the draft Petition Mr. Chan Pak of the Chung Kwok Po, at my request, kindly made a literal translation of it and this was attached to the English form of the Petitions. To go round for signatures was not one of the functions assigned to me, and I did not know how they were obtained; but judging from the confession of one of those that actually went round as to the way he had gone to work about this business, I cannot help agreeing with you that there is a distinct "contrast in methods which differentiate the races promoting them"; but can you point out a singular instance in which the method of the Chinese in this respect has been substantially different? Why, surely it must be within the recollection of many of your readers that it was only a few years ago a laudatory address was presented to the Honourable T. H. Whitehead, and almost immediately after the presentation, the Chairman of the deputation who presented the address wrote to the papers denying all or any previous knowledge of the contents of the said address until its presentation. Truly history repeats itself, and among the most conservative of people, this truism is especially conspicuous, and ought not to create any surprise.

Hitherto in all public movements and affairs affecting the interests and welfare of the Chinese public, initiation had to be undertaken by a few of the leading Chinese willy nilly, but such initiation had always been done with the consent and approval of the Chinese general public. The first and foremost reason is that the Chinese are always reluctant to come forward and take a part in anything which does not immediately affect their individual interest, and secondly, because a great many of them do not understand the English language, or the manner, customs and procedure of the Europeans, and as you know it has invariably been the practice for the Government and the Europeans, in great movements where the co-operation of the Chinese is sought, to only deal with a few of the leading Chinese as their intermediaries, instead of dealing with the Chinese public *en masse*, therefore it is refreshing to learn from one of your correspondents that henceforth everything would be changed, and that the time has now come that many Chinese can and intend to take a prominent part in all public proceedings and movements affecting the welfare of themselves and of the Colony. It is just as well for the Government and the Europeans to be assured on this point, so that in future it would be more in accord with the changed condition of affairs for them to approach the Chinese community direct on any subject on which their co-operation is sought. I personally welcome this tidings, and no one can rejoice at this good news more than myself. At last more shoulders will be put to the wheel and our future burdens will grow immeasurably lighter in consequence.

In conclusion, I have to apologise for the length of this communication, my only excuse is the obligation imposed upon me to clear up all possible misunderstandings between myself and the leading Chinese on the one hand and the European community on the other, and to prevent all future misconstructions.

I would have sent this letter for publication earlier but for the necessity of looking over a number of papers and official documents for

confirmation of my statements, and the intervention of the Easter holidays. Thanking you in anticipation.—Yours, etc.,

HO KAI.

THE ALLEGED INTERNATIONAL EMBROGLIO IN MACAO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 14th April.

SIR,—Referring to my letter of the 9th inst., published in your issue of the 10th under the above heading, I am glad to be able to send you for publication the true narrative of the occurrence, which has been kindly furnished to me by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary of Macao. It runs as follows:—"A few English visitors who arrived here by the *Wingchai* on Palm Sunday went to the Hotel Internacional (which adjoins Government House). Presumably whilst under the influence of liquor they had a quarrel amongst themselves and a free fight ensued just in front of the Government House. The sentry at the gate interfered and tried to disperse the party, but as they became more and more rowdy they were arrested and sent to the British Vice-Consulate by order of H. E. the Governor. The Consul advised them to conduct themselves properly and released them. Immediately afterwards they returned to the same place and started provoking the sentry, by using bad language and challenging him; thereupon they were again arrested and re-conducted to the British Consul, who after remonstrating with them dismissed them with the advice to return on board the steamer. Soon after, a despatch was forwarded by the British Consul to H. E. the Governor, thanking him for the leniency shown towards the visitors and offering apologies for their misbehaviour."

This is the whole narrative given by the Macao authorities and I am requested to add that the Colonial Secretary was not present at the time of the occurrence as was alleged in the *China Mail*.

A letter was received by the Colonial Secretary from one of the Englishmen concerned in the embroglio, expressing his deep regret at seeing the account of the affair published in the *China Mail* and repudiating any responsibility for the statements therein contained.

By the insertion of the above your readers will be able to appreciate what actually took place.

Thanking you in advance.—Yours, etc.,

IMPARTIAL.

THE APOLOGY FOR THE CHINESE PETITION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong 16th April.

SIR,—Referring to letter signed by Dr. Ho Kai, on the subject of the Chinese Petition for the retention of H.E. the Governor, I note that the writer refers to despatches from H.E. the Governor relating to the Blake Clock Tower and the Post Office. In the last paragraph of his letter he refers to having looked over a "number of papers and official documents for confirmation of his statements." Has Dr. Ho Kai been "briefed" that he has been allowed access to official documents and despatches, which I always believed were carefully guarded from public inspection?—Yours, etc.,

ENQUIRER.

Some of the native papers in the North manifest anxiety over the relations between Russia and Japan. A report emanating from Manchuria predicts a conflict between the two Powers before long in consequence of some bitterness engendered by the competition in the timber trade in the regions of the Yalu. Russia is alleged to have transferred 230,000 soldiers to the frontiers of Manchuria and is further said to have ordered four battleships and a score of cruisers and torpedo-boats to Tientsin. Perhaps the rumours current that large and urgent orders for provisions for the Japanese fleet have been placed in Hongkong, Shanghai and Singapore may be taken as something in the nature of corroboration, but for our part we disbelieve in the probability of a conflict between these two Powers in the immediate future.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

MR. KESWICK, M.P. ON THE NEW COMMERCIAL TREATY.

[FROM OUR OWN REPORTER.]

The annual meeting of the China Association was held on March 10th at the offices of the P. & O. Steam Navigation Company, Limited, Leadenhall St., London, E.C., Mr. W. Keswick, M.P., presiding.

In moving the adoption of the report, the CHAIRMAN said the chief matter of importance which had been discussed during the year was of course the new commercial treaty with China—a document which, whether it came into force or not, must always be regarded as a compilation of extreme value, and one showing great industry and a complete grasp of the subject treated. There was much doubt as to whether the treaty provided all the safeguards which were needful in a country like China to protect foreign traders from the great changes it introduced. The condition of things which had hitherto prevailed was one which they had found fault with since the beginning of the operation of the Tientsin treaty. There had been difficulties in regard to inland transit duties, which the Chinese were so expert in levying upon all trade, and the object of the new treaty was to remove, if possible, those exactions, and to bring about conditions by which free trade throughout the Chinese Empire should be secured. In its spirit the new treaty was ideal; in its operation he trusted it would be all they desired it to be. Unquestionably there must be extreme vigilance on the part of the British authorities, and all nations should become parties to it. The treaty could not come into operation until all the other Powers had accepted it. Up to date the other Powers had not signified their consent, but there was still plenty of time for them to do so, as it was not until January next year that the ratification would become necessary. The treaty had been the subject of much discussion and criticism and he thought the discussion had shown that it was a good treaty if it could be carried out. In regard to the silver question, the Chairman said it occurred to him that it was not possible to change the system of a silver basis in China unless the Chinese could bring other European nations and America and Japan to guarantee for a time the needful operations that would lead to the change. China was utterly powerless in the matter, and that being the case, unless foreign Powers came forward and assisted in the operation for a change in the currency no change could take place.

Mr STRACHAN seconded the adoption of the report, and the resolution was carried.

The following gentlemen were then elected members of the General Committee for the ensuing year:—Sir Thomas Sutherland, G.C.M.G.; Sir E. A. Sassoon, Bart., M.P.; Sir Cecil C. Smith, G.C.M.G.; Sir Ewen Cameron, K.C.M.G.; Sir Alfred Dent, K.C.M.G.; Sir R. T. Rennie; Sir E. J. Ackroyd; Sir Thomas Hanbury, K.C.V.O.; Sir Thomas Jackson, Bart.; Sir E. F. Alford, Kt.; Messrs A. R. Burkill, F. Cornes, H. Dent, G. B. Dodwell, R. M. Gray, R. S. Gundry, J. H. Gwyther, R. H. Hill, H. H. Joseph, Wm. Keswick, M.P., J. A. Maitland, G. J. Morrison, D. Reid, R. C. Rutherford, J. H. Scott, W. M. Strachan, W. A. Turnbull, W. C. Ward, J. Welch, T. H. Whitehead, W. S. Young, and A. Zimmermann.

Mr. D. Reid proposed that Sir Alfred Dent, K.C.M.G., be elected President of the Association for the ensuing year. He said they would all agree that the Association was very much indebted to Sir Alfred Dent for the many years of valuable and active service which he had rendered not only in the capacity of hon. treasurer, which he had so faithfully discharged since the formation of the Association, but more particularly for his conscientious attendance at meetings of the Committee, and for the very active interest he had taken in the deliberations of the Association at the annual meeting. By reason of his long residence in China and his familiarity with China and Chinese affairs, it seemed to him (the speaker) that it was fitting that Sir Alfred Dent should be invited to take the presidential chair, now that it had been vacated by a distinguished member of the house of Jardine. The names of Jardine

and Dent were as familiar as household words, and both had been associated with China ever since her ports had been opened to trade.

Sir Ewan Cameron seconded, and the resolution was unanimously carried.

Sir Alfred Dent returned thanks.

Mr. J. H. Scott proposed, and Mr. Z. MERN seconded, that Mr. W. Keswick, M.P., be elected Chairman of the Committee, Sir Alfred Dent, Vice-Chairman, and Mr. J. Welch, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer.

The resolution was carried.

Mr. Keswick, in returning thanks said he had done his best for the Association for a number of years, and he assured them that he would continue to do all he possibly could for them. He did not know whether they were to have days of very considerable anxiety in connection with their relations with China, but the Association would at all times keep alive with what was passing. In the future, events in China would unquestionably move faster than they had hitherto moved, whether in the way of progress or of reaction, and as they called upon the Government to be alert in their interests so ought the members of the Association to obtain the best information and make the most use of it.

Sir Alfred Dent and Mr. Welch also suitably replied, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding.

REVIEW.

Historic Macao. By C. A. MONTALTO DE JESUS. Hongkong, Kelly & Walsh, Ltd. In a volume of some 350 pages the author has produced a valuable historical work, dealing with the birth, relations, rise, progress and decadence of the charming little Portuguese colony which is situated within a few miles of Hongkong. The subject has an especial interest from the student's point of view, because Macao is the oldest foreign settlement in the Far East, and flourished as a port of commerce as far back as the 16th century. It was the port from whence the sturdy, adventurous Portuguese mariners brought their wonderful little galleons, heavily-laden with spices, silks and valuables through the China Sea, Indian Ocean and round the Cape to Lisbon and Venice, there to offer candles to their patron saints for a safe return and for escapes from Dutch or English privateers. As a port of commerce Macao then outvalled many progressive Eastern ports of to-day. It was prosperous before the friars from Mexico founded Manila, which ultimately became a rival. The business man who visits Macao for a holiday and passes along its quaint, dead, old streets, and surveys the deserted hongs of other days, will be surprised to learn that hundreds of years ago this same quiet sequestered colony imported from Japan no less than three million pounds in gold annually. He who is curious as to the origin of the present natives of Macao may be interested to know that their forefathers, for centuries administered the little colony, resisted Chinese aggression, capitulating only in the presence of famine, and stoutly beat off Dutch privateers which harassed them periodically. The author in the volume before us correctly points out, that the "procreation of a mixed but legitimate and Christian race" was a characteristic feature of the Portuguese colonisation introduced by Albuquerque and sanctioned by the Catholic clergy. The Macanese, or natives of Macao, owe their origin to the Portuguese pioneers intermarrying with Malay, Japanese and Chinese women. The Macanese *patois* bears testimony to the Malayan element introduced from Malacca, which place was originally an important Portuguese settlement. The Macanese have an honourable if a sad record, for when Portugal was overrun by the Spanish and her colonies felt before rising and aggressive Powers, Macao still maintained its independence and for a period the Portuguese flag had there alone a solitary existence. After reading Mr. Jesus's book the reader cannot fail to admire the stoicism, the patient and wise administration of the Macanese, who after all were very helpless. Those interested in missionary work may well consider the brilliant and honourable record of Christian propaganda in this old

colony. Hundreds of years before Protestantism came to China, Macao was the base of Christian missionary work in the far Orient. Its influence was repeatedly felt at Peking. Sometimes militant, often subtle with damaging political motives, periodically ruggedly enthusiastic as the waves of monastic life and rule which affected Europe reached the Orient, the little outpost bore testimony to Occidental morality and philosophy. Of the various orders the Jesuits appear to have been the most influential and vigorous. The old ruins of St. Paul's, with its still beautiful but neglected facade, bear testimony to Jesuit art, imparted to Japanese converts, and the inscription on the foundation-stone is dated 1602. From the Jesuit seminary of St. Paul missionaries went forth to China, Japan, Tonkin and Cochinchina. It was in this building that the Japanese nobles who went on an embassy to Pope Gregory XIII in 1590 wrote and published an account of their mission and travels in Japanese, with a Latin translation produced by a Jesuit father! This is but forty years later than the first recorded book printed in Ireland, and the first volume printed in Edinburgh was only dated at the early part of the same century. The Jesuits were expelled in 1762. The first episcopal see was founded in Macao in 1575 by Pope Gregory XIII. The ancient society of charity, which is now responsible for the local lottery, namely the Santa Casa de Misericordia, was established there by a bishop, in the remote past, the society being a conspicuous institution in every Portuguese city, and was instituted in 1498 by the Queen of Portugal. The Dutch made their first appearance off Macao in 1601, and were followed twenty-two years later by the English. The book is full of interesting matter and the author has been very painstaking in regard to his authorities. In the concluding portion dealing with the modern history of the colony, we may not see eye to eye with him in his deductions or entirely accept his criticism, though we will sympathise with him in hopes for the future. His work has, on the whole, been well and carefully done, and the book is worthy of a permanent place in the library of Far Eastern literature. The volume is well illustrated with collotype engravings, which materially add to its value.

THE ANTI-FOOTBINDING MOVEMENT.

SPEECH BY WU TING-FANG.

Speaking last week at the annual meeting of the Natural Feet Society, founded in Shanghai by Mrs. Archibald Little, H. E. Wu Ting-fang, ex-Minister to Washington, declared himself to be a staunch opponent of footbinding. He knew the cruelty of it, but so did those present also, so it was needless to go into details. From early in life he had tried his humble best to put it down but with very little success. He had no daughter of his own, so that he could not set an example as he would have liked to do, for no daughter of his should ever have her feet bound. (Applause) It was, therefore, with great gratification that while he was in America he heard of the starting of this Society. He welcomed the movement and when he heard of the edict of the Empress Dowager he "leaped for joy." Some of those present knew his (the speaker's) wife and that she had small feet. They might therefore charge him with inconsistency unless he gave a personal explanation. It was that when he was old enough for a wife he told his parents he would not marry a girl with small feet. Unfortunately it was impossible to find a respectable and suitable bride, whose feet were unbound, and after three years' waiting he married one with bound feet, rather than remain single. "I am not complaining of my wife," His Excellency continued, "I am quite satisfied with her. Since we have been married I have talked to her about her feet and I am glad to say she is of the same way of thinking as I am. But it is very difficult to unloosen feet once bound, though I can tell you *sub rosa* my wife is trying to unloosen her feet (applause). When she heard of this meeting she urged me to come and she has authorised me to say she will give a small contribution of \$100 to the Society" (applause).

THE HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The 21st Annual Prize Meeting of the Hongkong Rifle Association was brought to a close on the 13th inst. During the three days covered by the Meeting there was good shooting weather generally with a wind that sometimes proved tricky. G. P. Lammert won the Championship with 301 points as against the 305 which D. Baldwin scored last year when he carried off first honours. R. M. Lloyd was a good second with 300 points. In the All Comers' Competition J. Marshall took first place with 123. On the whole the shooting was good though possibilities were not remarkably frequent. There were rather fewer entrants than was the case last year, 24 competing for the Championship and 17 for the Nurseries. At the conclusion of the shooting on Monday the prizes were presented by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Mowbray S. Northcote, who had worked indefatigably to promote the success of the Meeting and had an onerous duty to fulfil in making up the scores—a duty which kept him pretty much confined to the Committee Tent during the three days. A Naval Range party was in charge of the register-keeping and the butts. Among the donors of prizes were H.E. Major-General Sir William J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., Vice-Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, K.C.B., H.E. Sir Henry A. Blaker, G.C.M.G., Commodore C. G. Robinson, R.N., Sir Paul Charter, C.M.G., Messrs. J. B. M. Smith, W. B. Dixon, E. R. Bellios, C.M.G., the Ladies' Rifle Association and the Hongkong Rifle Association. In the Ladies' Nomination Competition the prizes were presented by Messrs. Falconer & Co., Kelly & Walsh, William Powell, Ltd., Lane, Crawford & Co., Lock Hing, Wong Hing, Brewer & Co., and the Dock Co. staff.

Appended is the prize-list:—
CHAMPIONSHIP, 1ST STAGE.—Distances 200, 500 and 600 yards. Members only. No. of shots—seven. Entrance fee 50 cents. Three prizes value 50 per cent. of the entries with \$15 added.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total
G. P. Lammert ...	34	33	33	100
R. Stewart ...	32	33	34	99
R. Lapsley ...	32	30	33	95
H. Horley ...	32	29	33	94

RANGE PRIZES—200 YARDS.

G. P. Lammert ...	34
R. M. Lloyd ...	31
H. Horley ...	32

500 YARDS.

J. H. Pidgeon ...	34
G. P. Lammert ...	33
R. Stewart ...	33

600 YARDS.

R. Stewart ...	34
G. P. Lammert ...	33
H. Horley ...	33

CHAMPIONSHIP, 2ND STAGE.—Distances 500 and 600 yards. Members only. No. of shots—ten. Entrance fee 50 cents. Three prizes value 50 per cent. of the entries with \$15 added.

	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total
R. M. Lloyd ...	47	70	117
Serg. Davies ...	46	68	114
G. P. Lammert ...	46	67	113
W. Staakwood ...	44	66	110

RANGE PRIZES—500 YARDS.

J. H. Pidgeon ...	49
R. M. Lloyd ...	47
R. Stewart ...	46

600 YARDS.

R. M. Lloyd ...	70
Sergt. Davies ...	68
G. P. Lammert ...	67

CHAMPIONSHIP, 3RD STAGE.—Distances 700 and 800 yards. Members only. No. of shots—ten. Entrance fee 50 cents. Three prizes value 50 per cent. of the entries with \$15 added.

	700 yds.	800 yds.	Total
Sergt. Davies ...	46	48	94
F. Penning ...	47	47	94
J. Parker ...	46	45	91
P. O. Chase ...	48	47	90

RANGE PRIZES—700 YARDS.

R. Stewart ...	49
Col. Serg. Cross ...	48
R. M. Lloyd ...	48

800 YARDS.				
Serg. Davies	...	...	...	48
P. O. Chase	...	...	...	47
F. E. Penning	...	...	...	47

CHAMPIONSHIP—GRAND AGGREGATES.				
	1st st.	2nd st.	3rd st.	Total
G. P. Lammert	100	113	88	301
R. M. Lloyd	98	117	90	305
Serg. Inst. Davies	89	114	94	297
R. Stewart	99	107	88	294
R. Lapsley	95	107	89	291
J. Marshall	91	107	89	286
W. G. Stackwood	86	110	88	284

NURSERY.—Distances 200, 500 and 600 yards. Restricted to members other than A. Class Shots, who joined the Rifle Association on or before 1st April, 1903. No. of shots—seven. Entrance fee 50 cents. Three prizes, value 50 per cent. of the entries with \$15 added.

	200	500	600	Total
J. Andrew	33	29	26	88
A. H. Bisset	27	26	27	80
F. E. Penning	23	25	30	78

RANGE PRIZES—200 YARDS.

J. Andrew	...	...	...	33
A. H. Bisset	...	...	...	27
Major Tudor	...	...	...	26

500 YARDS.

J. Andrew	...	...	...	29
Major Tudor	...	...	...	26
A. H. Bisset	...	...	...	26

600 YARDS.

F. E. Penning	...	...	...	30
Sapper Robertson	...	...	...	27
A. H. Bisset	...	...	...	27

ALL COMERS.—Competitions for all comers, Rifles or carbines, will take place—simultaneously with the for going events at ranges 200, 500, 600, 700 and 800 yards. No. of shots—Five at each range. Unlimited entries. Entrance 30 cents per shoot.

	200	500	600	700	800	Total
J. Marshall	24	25	24	25	25	123
Sub. Krishnaji rao	24	25	24	25	24	122
Scinde	24	25	24	25	24	122
J. Parkes	25	24	23	24	25	121
R. Lapsley	25	25	22	23	24	121

RANGE PRIZES—200 yards.

R. Lapsley	...	...	...	25
Serg. Davies	...	...	...	25
A. J. Pullen, Serg. Griffiths, R. Stewart	...	...	...	24 all.

500 YARDS.
Serg. Inst. Davies, Subadar Krishnaji rao Scinde, J. Marshall and Jemadar Shaik Imanm—25 all.

600 YARDS.
Serg. Griffiths ... 25
J. Parkes ... 24
J. Marshall, Krishnaji rao Scinde, Shaik Yasim and R. M. Lloyd—24 all.

700 YARDS.
Serg. Davies, J. H. Pidgeon, P. O. Marshall, J. Parkes, J. Marshall, Krishnaji rao Scinde, Shaik Yasim and Sapper Robertson—25 all (divide 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes).

R. Lapsley	...	...	...	25
J. Marshall	...	...	...	25
A. J. Pullen	...	...	...	24

LADIES' NOMINATION.—Open to Lady Members or their Nominees. Distance 300 yards. No. of shots—seven. No entrance fee. Prizes presented.

Mrs. Marshall nominated	J. Marshall	...	33
Mrs. Power	Col. Serg. Cross	...	33
Mrs. Stewart	Mr. Stewart	...	31
Miss Logan	Mr. Lapsley	...	31
Mrs. Pullen	Mr. Pullen	...	30
Miss Austen	Serg. Thornhill	...	30
Mrs. Andrew	Mr. Andrew	...	29
Mrs. McClay	S. J. Chase	...	29
Mrs. Stackwood	Mr. Stackwood	...	28

LADIES' COMPETITION.—Open to Lady Members only. Distance 200 yards. No. of shots—seven. No entrance fee. Two prizes.

Mrs. Leigh	...	...	...	25
Mrs. Baker Brown	...	...	...	24
Mrs. Grey	...	...	...	22
Miss Grey	...	...	...	22
Mrs. Tudor	...	...	...	19
Mrs. Bryan	...	...	...	16

CONSOLATION.—Open to all Members who have not won a prize at this Meeting. Distance 200 yards. No. of shots—seven. No entrance fee. One prize.

Serg. Thornhill	...	...	...	33
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CRICKET.

CRAIGENGOWER CRICKET CLUB v. F.A.M.C.
A return match between the above was played on the 11th inst. at the Happy Valley and was won by Craigenower by 9 runs.

The following are the scores and analyses:—

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.		
J. L. Stuart, b Woolley	...	20
E. Ford, b Williams	...	0
F. Rapp, b Williams	...	5
M. E. Asger, b Cook	...	5
J. P. Jordan, b Cook	...	0
L. A. Rose, b Williams	...	6
E. Basa, b Woolley	...	23
B. Pestonji, c Wilson, b Williams	...	11
A. A. Remedios, b Woolley	...	0
F. Drude, not out	...	0
A. E. Asger, b Williams	...	0
Extras	...	6
Total	...	76

F.A.M.C.		
Staff-Sergt. Wilson, b Pestonji	...	4
Lieut. Harvey, b Pestonji	...	13
Woolley, c and b Stuart	...	1
Cook, c Basa, b Pestonji	...	0
Lieut. Craig, c Rapp, b Pestonji	...	8
Sergt.-Major Allwork, l.b.w., b Stuart	...	8
Goodwill, not out	...	16
Williams, b Stuart	...	0
Chaffee, c Drude, b Stuart	...	4
Duff, b Stuart	...	0
Skinner, b Pestonji	...	4
Extras	...	0
Total	...	67

BOWLING ANALYSES.

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
Williams	6.2	—	28	5
Cook	5	2	10	2
Woolley	4.1	—	10	3
Harvey	3	—	22	—

F.A.M.C.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Pestonji	9.1	3	27	5
Rapp	1	—	12	—
Stuart	8	1	28	5

LAWN-TENNIS.

L.R.C. v. H.K.C.C.

This annual match was played on the ground of the H.K.C.C. on the 11th inst. The weather was fine and, from a spectator's point of view, pleasant and cool, but a strongish wind somewhat interfered with the play and probably on this account the form shown was hardly up to the average. As is usual in these encounters the Ladies had the first choice of players to represent them—that is, of course, of men who are members of both Clubs; in spite of this fact, however, the C.C. generally manages to win. Saturday's match was an exception to the rule and, after a close and even contest the L.R.C. won by 10 games—87 to 77. As a matter of fact the C.C. won the larger number of sets, securing 10 against their opponents 8. The L.R.C. were unfortunate in losing the services of Pinckney who was unable to play through illness, but this unfortunate circumstance doubtless tended to render the match more even as the C.C. were less strongly represented than usual. Of the various couples, Atkinson and Grist, for the L.R.C. and Humphreys and Rademacher, for the C.C. were the most successful, each pair losing but one set, but Atkinson and Grist won the most games—35 out of a possible 36, whereas Humphreys and Rademacher were 3 short of this total. There was quite a large number of spectators, including many ladies, who followed the play with interest, if without enthusiasm. Messrs. Ballech, Grimbale, Nicolle, and Woodcock efficiently carried out the duties of umpires and the C.C. Secretary was much in evidence in attending to the scoring boards. By the kindness of the Colonel and Officers, the band of the 10th Bombay Infantry played an excellent selection of pieces and thereby added

greatly to the enjoyment of everyone present. The following are the results of the various matches:—

L.R.C.	H.K.C.C.	1st set.	2nd set.
Atkinson & Grist v. Martin & Butt	...	6-2	6-2
" " v. Edwards & Strickland	...	6-1	6-2
" " v. {Humphreys & Rademacher}	...	6-2	5-6
Pontifex & Man v. Edwards & Strickland	...	6-0	5-6
" " v. Martin & Butt	...	3-6	6-3
" " v. {Humphreys & Rademacher}	...	4-6	1-6
Hallifax & Yeats v. {Humphreys & Rademacher}	...	5-6	4-6
" " v. Martin & Butt	...	2-6	5-5
" " v. Edwards & Strickland	...	5-6	5-6

L.R.C. wins..... 43 C.C. wins..... 35
Total..... 87 games Total..... 77 games
C.C. wins 10 sets to L.R.C.'s 8.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

QUARTERLY MEETING—MCWEEN CUP AND POOL.

The following cards were returned:—

MACEOEN CUP.		
Mr. E. E. Deacon	...	86 — 12 = 74
Mr. E. J. Grist	...	85 — 5 = 80
Mr. W. C. D. Turner	...	98 — 18 = 80
Lt. D. C. H. Dalrymple, R.N.	...	93 — 13 = 80
Mr. W. W. Clark	...	88 — 6 = 82
Dr. J. R. Raymond	...	95 — 9 = 86
Mr. J. C. Gray	...	108 — 22 = 86
Mr. W. J. Saunders	...	103 — 15 = 88
Mr. G. Stewart	...	93 — 4 = 89
Mr. C. E. H. Beavis	...	93 — 2 = 91

24 entries.
BOGEY CUP.
Dr. W. L. Martin ... rec. 9 strokes 2 up
Mr. A. Brooke Smith ... " 15 " 1 up
Mr. E. J. Grist ... " 4 " 2 down
Capt. H. Crichton, R.N. ... " 11 " 5 down
Mr. C. P. Chater ... " 12 " 6 down
Comdr. W. H. Nicholson, R.N. ... " 9 " 6 down

POOL.		
Mr. W. H. Martin	...	89 — 12 = 77
Mr. J. K. Corser	...	91 — 12 = 79
Mr. E. J. Grist	...	85 — 5 = 80
Mr. W. W. Clark	...	88 — 6 = 82
Mr. A. J. Williams	...	99 — 16 = 83
Mr. J. C. Gray	...	107 — 22 = 85
Mr. A. Brooke Smith	...	106 — 20 = 86
Mr. H. M. Boxer	...	102 — 15 = 87
Mr. W. J. Saunders	...	103 — 15 = 88
Mr. G. Stewart	...	93 — 4 = 89

THE STOCK OF CURRENCY IN HONGKONG.

In Messrs. Ilbert & Co.'s (Shanghai) Market Report of the 4th inst., we find the following remarks on Mr. Taylor's annual report for 1902:—

The Customs Annual Report for 1902 is published, from which it will be seen that imports at moment of landing have increased by Tls. 63,000,000 and export at moment of shipment by Tls. 49,000,000, which hardly bears out the theory that depreciated silver is stimulating exports and curtailing imports. The figures regarding silver are interesting, as the net export for the year is stated to be close on Tls. 14,000,000. The Statistical Secretary for the first time draws a distinction between the export of sycee and of coined silver, and states that the great bulk of the export consisted of dollars which were shipped to Hongkong; that it is certain that these dollars were not sent abroad from Hongkong, and that they are destined to filter back to the mainland. If this is the case the stock of currency must be very much more plentiful in Hongkong than it is in any of the Treaty ports; both here and in the North, sycee is getting rather scarce. Customs statistics are valuable mainly for purposes of comparison; we have seen that there has been a large net export of silver last year as against a considerable net import in former years; it is not stated why it is expected that more silver will filter back from Hongkong in the future than in the past, nor is there any means of estimating what quantity of silver filters into or filters out of China.

THE OSAKA EXHIBITION.

What is the Exhibition like?

That is what most people ask, and expect an answer off-hand. But it is a question to which there is no answer, for no single description can suffice, any more than it could to the simple demand we sometimes receive from home, "Tell us all about Japan."

The Exhibition is like whatever the visitor wishes to consider it; it may be an illustrated encyclopaedia or an auction catalogue, a mere list of samples with numbers and names, to those visitors who have not understood how an exhibition is to be enjoyed. Or it may be a wonderful world in itself, a place where one can live for days and days, exploring and finding ever more and more to interest and charm. That is how I take it, and that is how to enjoy it.

To express it in a nutshell, the exhibition is a replica of Japan, prefecture by prefecture, each trying its best to be more attractive than the rest. Most of the great exhibitions in the western world have been, primarily, enormous holiday gatherings, and the craving for amusement has influenced the whole spirit of the undertaking. From the "Colindale" at Earl's Court in 1887, down to the "World's Fair" at Buffalo last year, the exhibits formed rather a mere background, while the foremost features were the games, side shows, pastimes of every conceivable kind, just as the world-renowned Aquarium at Westminster drew enormous crowds for its concerts, none for its fish. Now, the Osaka Exhibition is not like that. It is not a conglomeration of fun and frivolity, but an exhibition. Perhaps there will be entertainments later in the season, but at present there are none.

It is a strictly and characteristically Japanese Exhibition, arranged in a Japanese way, for Japanese visitors. Instead of being classified industry by industry, one section for cotton textiles, one for silk, one for brasswork, one for leather work, pottery, carpentry, metals, and so on, the industries are all mince-pied into one huge lot chopped up into tiny compartments labelled with names of the prefectures. It is the same with non-Japanese exhibits; all the rest of the universe is bunched together unclassified, a packet of bone collar-buttons side by side with the latest specimen of printing-press, Singapore tiger-skins exhibited next to Noble's dynamite, Nestle's milk, and Edison's latest 40-h.p. gramophone. The one classification "foreign" covers everything, and there is no idea of orderly and intelligent arrangement of like with like. It is bewilderingly miscellaneous.

One attempt to sectionise, namely the apportioning of a special building for machinery, resulted in the provision of a vastly inadequate space, and two-thirds of the exhibits are in other buildings.

In other ways the visitor is reminded at every end and turn that it is a Japanese Exhibition pure and simple. Though a most laudable effort has been made to label everything in English as well as Japanese, it is very far from complete, nearly half of the exhibits being more or less a mystery to a foreigner; and, seeing there are about ten thousand Japanese visitors to one foreigner, the wonder is that it should be worth while troubling about foreigners at all. There never can be very many of them; and for such a handful, they can adapt themselves to Japanese conditions.—*Japan Gazette*.

A Peking despatch to the *N.-C. Daily News*, dated the 4th inst. says:—His Majesty the Emperor proceeds to-morrow morning at 4 o'clock to the Temple of Agriculture to perform the ceremony of personally ploughing a furrow in the grounds of the said temple, after which His Majesty returns to the Palace to visit the Empress Dowager and take breakfast. His Majesty will then leave the Palace at 5 o'clock for the Machiapu railway terminus and await the arrival of the Empress Dowager at the Yellow-draped Imperial Kiosk at Machiapu, and then embark on the train with Her Majesty for the Western Imperial Mausolea. After performing the necessary sacrifices and worship at the mausolea, Their Majesties will proceed to the Imperial Rest-house and transact State business.

MISCELLANEOUS.

By a fire which occurred in a Chinese timber-yard at Tanjong Rhu, Singapore, on the night of the 2nd inst., damage was done to the extent of between \$20,000 and \$30,000. The property belonged to Tham Ah Fuk and was not insured.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Company advises us that he has received a telegram from the mines giving the result of preliminary crushing of ore from Swah up to the 9th instant, which gave a yield of 64 ounces of smelted gold for 115 tons of ore, equivalent to 11 dwts. 3 grains per ton, the value being \$2,600.

A Japanese crew, entirely ignorant of navigation, came very near sealing the fate of the schooner *Alice Kimball* which reached San Francisco from Honolulu last month. So helpless were the Orientals that the captain and cabin-boy had to manage the schooner almost exclusively themselves, the result being that on one or two occasions she came very near being lost.

Mr. Kearley, M.P., has been informed by Lord George Hamilton that His Majesty's Government had at one time under their consideration, in consultation with other Powers, the question of bestowing an international medal upon those who took part in the defence of the Legations at Peking. This medal was not in any way to take the place of such medals or decorations as each State might think well to confer upon its own nationals. In consequence, however, of an absence of unanimity among the Powers concerned, it was finally decided to abandon the proposal.

Answering Mr. Schwann, M.P., in the House of Commons last month, Lord Cranborne said no information had been received from Manchuria as to the Boxer movement and anti-foreign feeling, but His Majesty's Consul-General at Hankow had reported that he had received trustworthy information of a threatened movement in Kansu. A report from the British Vice-Consul at Tientsin also pointed in the same direction. His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires has warned the Chinese Government, and the Wai-pu-wu had stated in reply that they had received no corroboration of the news, and that the reports had probably arisen from movements of disbanded troops in Kansu.

According to the *Cable News* of Manila, the mysterious disappearance of \$50,000 gold from the steamship *Zafiro* is still a mystery and the matter will be aired in the Hongkong courts as soon as the interested parties can be assembled in this city. Representatives of Messrs. Warner, Barnes & Co., the Chinese consignees and others in Manila who have an interest in the missing funds will probably leave on the *Zafiro* in order to be present when the case comes up. It was learned that the steamship line will claim that the money never was placed aboard the vessel, while of course the shippers will contend that it was. This is the same status of the case as has existed ever since the loss was discovered, and the court to be convened will try to bring to light more definite information on the subject and fix the responsibility where it belongs.

Mr. Arycsbi Akira, Vice-Consul for Japan in London has addressed a very strong despatch to his Government on the subject of male practices by Japanese import merchants. According to this despatch, a Japanese firm occupying a high position in Japan asked an English firm to invoice its goods some twenty or thirty per cent. below their real value, and even demanded that blank invoices should be furnished. The proposals were based on an assertion that the common practice in Japan is to evade customs duties, and they were backed by a very unequivocal intimation that failure to comply would involve loss of custom for the English firm. The latter, not accustomed to do business in such a manner and apprehensive that these manoeuvres would bring discredit on Anglo-Japanese trade in general, laid the matter before the Japanese Consulate and suggested that suitable steps should be taken. It is added that many epistles of a like tenor are on file, and that their holders are willing to submit them for Consular inspection at any time. Of course the effect of this in creating distrust of Japanese merchants can scarcely be over-rated.

A special commission will leave St. Petersburg shortly to take over the control of the Chinese Eastern Railway, on which regular traffic will be opened in the month of July next.

The capital of 200,000 Tls. for the Grand Hotel des Wagon Lits, Peking, Ltd., has been over-subscribed. The plans, which are by M. Roisin, have been considerably altered in the way of extension, and building operations are to be commenced forthwith.

The British Ambassador at Berlin, on behalf of the King, has presented Captain Lans, commander of the German warship *Illis*, with the Order of the Bath. Captain Lans was entertained to lunch at the British Embassy. It will be remembered that the *Illis* took a prominent part in the capture of the Taku forts in June, 1900, when Captain Lans was seriously wounded.

Last month there were sixteen Europeans and double that number of natives under treatment at the Hanoi Hospital for rabies. Six Artillery officers succumbed to the disease. It appears that the disease was communicated to a dog belonging to one of the officers by a pariah dog, among whom the disease is reported to be very prevalent. A well-known Hongkong resident is at present at Saigon undergoing treatment for supposed hydrophobia.

Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria who is now at Peking has had audience with the Empress Dowager who assured His Royal Highness of her earnest wish that the friendly relations with all the foreign Powers should be maintained. His Royal Highness was afterwards presented to H.M. Kwang Hsu in a smaller chamber. The chief feature of the interview, says the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, was a remark of His Majesty that he would greatly like to travel.

On the 2nd inst. at Singapore, Capt. C. J. Mattock, master of the s.s. *Amara*, responded to a summons issued at the instance of Chief Boarding-Officer Dennison, to explain how in a recent voyage from Hongkong he carried as passengers two hundred adults and a child in excess of the number allowed by the ship's licence. The fact was admitted. Mr. Brookman remarked that the case was a bad one, and imposed a fine of \$5 for each passenger in excess, the aggregate amounting to \$1,062.50. To this was added a fine of \$50 imposed on Captain Mattock personally, and the costs, 50 cents, the whole figuring up to \$1,113.

The Governor in Council having decided that the resumption of a portion of the remaining portion of Inland Lot 71 (including the kitchen backyard, rear wall and the rear part of the house No. 19, Circular Pathway) is required for a public purpose and private negotiations for the purchase thereof having failed, the said portion of the remaining portion of Inland Lot 71 containing an area of about 396 square feet will be resumed by the Crown for a public purpose at the expiration of four months from the publication of notice, and that thereupon such compensation in respect of such resumption will be paid as may be awarded in the manner provided by the Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance 1900.

The *Customs Gazette* containing the statistical returns for the last three months of 1902 is now published. It is interesting to note that the number of vessels of all kinds which entered Canton during the quarter was 968, showing an increase of 275 compared with the same quarter for the year 1901, representing an increase in tonnage of 114,758. The import and export returns are not totalled but the general tendency of the import trade has been unfavourable though there are certain very noticeable exceptions. Indian yarn, for instance, is represented by 25,564 piculs as against 5,529 piculs in the corresponding quarter of last year. The only other noteworthy increases were in tin plates and lead (in pigs), kerosene, and particularly rice and paddy. The latter is returned at 1,961,190 piculs as against 54,151 piculs last year. In the export returns the most notable item is the enormous increase in the export of fans of all kinds, the export being 5,876,061 pieces as against 313,545 in the corresponding quarter last year. The revenue for the quarter was 640,497 Hk Tls. as compared with 568,747 in 1901, and 427,530 in 1900.

Miss Floy Colmore has been appointed assistant Attorney-General at Manila.

Letters have reached London from Newchwang by the Siberian route in 22 days.

According to estimates published in Japanese papers, Russia has between 40,000 and 50,000 troops in Manchuria.

The French Government are said to be negotiating for the purchase of the dredger *Canton River*, and have offered £28,000 for the vessel.

Lieut. Col. Donald Mackenzie, S.V.C., has been appointed Secretary to the Municipal Council and Superintendent of Police in the new International Settlement at Kulangsu, Amoy.

The "Statement of the First Lord of the Admiralty explanatory of the Navy Estimates 1903-1904" announces amongst other things that another shallow-draft river steamer for the China Station is to be constructed.

The report of the Yangtze Insurance Association, Ltd., recommends a dividend of 20 per cent. This will absorb \$93,000; a sum of \$20,223 is recommended to be transferred to the reserve fund, which will leave a balance of \$51,865 to be carried forward.

From St. Petersburg it is reported that the Russian Foreign Department will shortly establish a Russian committee for the exploration of Northern and Eastern Asia, for historical, archaeological, linguistic, and ethnographical investigations. The statutes have been published, and admit of the participation of scientific men of all nations.

The four Chinese seamen of the fishing junk which arrived recently at Shauiwan and reported that two of the crew had mutinied on the high seas and murdered the master and his wife and son, were remanded at the Magistracy on the 13th inst. charged with the manslaughter of the two murderers, who jumped or were thrown into the sea and are believed to have been drowned.

The railway sleepers and coal which have been bought hitherto in Japan by the Russian authorities for shipment to Port Arthur and for the use of the Eastern China Railway have always been transported in Japanese steamers. It is now reported that the Russian authorities have added to the terms of the contract a condition that the goods should be shipped in Russian steamers.

Singapore, reports the *Free Press*, says goodbye humbly speaking for the last time to that splendid old sailor, Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Henry Keppel, who has spent his second consecutive winter in those scenes which in the active days of his career he knew so well and loved so much. The Admiral left for home on the 3rd inst. amid every mark of respect shown to him by the officials and residents of the port.

On Monday the 5th inst. what might have been a serious affair occurred at Jessfield Village, says the *N.C. Daily News*. It appears that two Misses Campbell and a friend were driving through the village when their horse knocked down a Chinese child, apparently without hurting it. On the way back their carriage was attacked by a crowd of Chinese rowdies, the mafos were beaten and the ladies were dragged out, but a foreigner opportunely appeared on the scene and dispersed the crowd. Had he not done so the consequences might have been very serious. The village magistrate has handed over four men to the police as the ringleaders in the affair.

It has been said that inland the purchasing value of the dollar has not decreased with the fall of silver. This statement does not seem to be entirely borne out by the facts. The correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News* at Nankin has the following to say on the subject:—"The local market shows a most perceptible decline in the purchasing value of silver. Rents and land values have increased not a little, but this is most likely due to an increased demand for such property owing to the growth of the city. A truer index, however, is to be noted in the increased cost of living measured in silver. This is by no means confined to imported goods, such as cloth, kerosene, etc., but many native staples, as rice, oil, meats of all kinds, tea, etc., show the same advance, though of course to a less marked degree. Wages as yet do not exhibit any corresponding rise, but wage-earners are evidently restless under present conditions, the causes for which few if any of them understand."

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 17th April.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 17th April.—A further decline is reported, market being weak.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.40 to \$8.45	per cwt.
Do. " 2, White.....	7.45 to 7.50	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	6.10 to 6.15	"
Do. " 2, Brown ...	6.00 to 6.05	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.20 to 8.25	"
Do. No. 1, White.....	7.25 to 7.30	"
Do. " 1, Brown ...	5.85 to 5.95	"
Do. " 2, Brown ...	5.70 to 5.75	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.20 to 12.25	"
Shekloong "	10.85 to 10.70	"

RICE.

HONGKONG, 17th April.—There is no market and the prices are declining.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$3.55 to 3.60
" Round, Good quality	5.20 to 5.25
" Long	5.30 to 5.35
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	4.05 to 4.10
" Garden, " No. 1	4.25 to 4.30
" White,	5.55 to 5.60
" Fine Cargo	5.70 to 5.75

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG 9th April.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...	\$94.00 to \$134.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ...	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24, ...	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32, ...	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42, ...	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.30 to 2.40
7 lbs.	2.50 to 2.60
8.4 lbs.	3.30 to 4.10
9 to 10 lbs.	4.00 to 5.60
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.80 to 3.00
58 to 60 "	3.45 to 3.75
64 to 66 "	4.00 to 5.50
Fine	5.75 to 8.20
Book-folds	4.75 to 7.50
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.80 to 1.75
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	2.00 to 2.30
7lbs. (32 ")	2.40 to 2.95
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	2.50 to 2.75
7lbs. (32 ")	3.00 to 3.50
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.30 to 4.00
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ " to 14 lbs.	4.75 to 7.30

FANCY COTTONS—	
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.50 to 5.50

Brocades—Dyed	— to —
DAMASKS—	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted	— to —
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.29 to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in.	0.26 to 0.29

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.30 to 5.00
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WOOLLENS—	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.75 to 2.25
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 3.10

Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	7.45 to 9.50
Assorted	7.60 to 9.65
Camlets—Assorted	13.50 to 38.00
Lastings—30 yd., 31 inches Assorted	14.00 to 21.00

Orleans—Plain	10.00 to —
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Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	0.65 to 0.90
Fine quality,	1.60 to 2.50

METALS—	per picul
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Iron—Nail Rod	4.80 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.80 to —
Swedish Bar	4.80 to —
Small Round Rod	5.20 to —

Hoop ½ to 1½ in.,	6.20 to —
Wire, 16/25,	9.50 to —
Wire Rope Old	3.50 to —
Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..	10.10 to —

Australian	10.10 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	45.00 to —
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	45.00 to —
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	45.00 to —

Composition Nails	61.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	39.00 to —
Tin	98.00 to —

Tin-Plates	8.30 to —
Steel ½ to ¾	6.50 to —

SUNDRIES—	per picul
Quicksilver	18.00 to —

Window Glass	5.75 to —
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CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 17th April.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/7½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/7½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/7½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/7½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/7½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight ..	1/7½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	204
Credits 4 months' sight	208
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	168½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	39½
Credits, 60 days' sight	40½
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer ..	121½
Bank, on demand	121½
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer ..	121½
Bank, on demand	121½
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	73
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	79½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	1 p.m.
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	nominal
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	98½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	3 p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	2 p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	64
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$12.15
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	63.50
BAR SILVER, per oz.	22½

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, April 17th, 1903.—Business has been quieter since the opening of our market after the Easter holidays but rates generally continue to be fairly well maintained.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been booked at \$685 and further shares can probably be obtained at this figure. London is unchanged at \$63. Nationals continue in some request at \$25.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong are quiet with probable sellers at \$310. Chinas have eased off, and after sales at \$86 down to \$83 are on further offer at the latter rate.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue quiet at \$535. China Traders have been booked at \$60 and there are further sellers at this rate. Cantons are reported sold at \$167½. North Chinas and Yangtszes are steady at quotations.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have continued in request, and further sales at \$38½ are reported. Indo-Chinas have ruled somewhat erratic, but at the close are inclined to firmness with probable buyers at \$106. China and Manilas have again been booked at \$25. Douglases continue on offer at \$43. Star Ferries are in request at \$27 (old) and \$15 (new). Shell Transports are lower with sellers at £1 6s.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have changed ownership at \$110, and are in request at \$109½. Luzons are on offer at \$12½.

MINING.—Punjams are unchanged at \$3 sellers. Raubs have been booked at \$6½, \$7 and \$7½ and can now be placed at \$9. Jalebas are slightly better with some buyers at \$11½.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have sold at \$215, \$216, and \$217 cash and for the end of the month delivery, and close steady. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are weak with sellers at \$95. New Amoy Docks are neglected at \$38½. Farnhams have sold in the North at Tls. 192½.

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have eased off to \$175 with some sales and further sellers. Kowloon Lands are on offer at \$42½ without tampering buyers. West Points are obtainable at \$55. Humphreys Estates are wanted at \$12½ after sales at this rate and \$12½. Hongkong Hotels have improved to \$148 with sales and further buyers.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos can be placed at Tls. 40, and Internationals at the same figure. Laon Kung Mows have sold in the North at Tls. 45. Soy Chees are unaltered at Tls. 160. Hongkong Cottons have sold and are wanted at \$16.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have been booked at \$22½ and are now held

for \$23. China Borneo have been booked at \$11 and more shares are obtainable at the rate. Watsons continue in request at \$15. Ropes can be placed at \$115. Fenwicks are reported sold at \$50, but more shares can be obtained at this figure. Ices have improved to \$235 buyers. Steam Waterboats are wanted at \$114 and United Asbestos at \$9. China Providents have been done at \$9.60 and can still be obtained at this rate. Robinson Pianos are enquired for at \$50.

MEMOS.—China and Manila Steamship Co. Limited, ordinary yearly meeting on the 29th inst., transfer books close on the 26th instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai ..	\$125	{ \$685, sales L'don, £63.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$25, buyers
B. Shares	28	\$25, buyers
Four. Shares	21	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	21	\$3, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	10	\$424.
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	12	\$11, sales
China Light & Power } Co., Ltd.	20	\$10.
China Prov. L. & M.	10	\$9.75, sellers
China Sugar	100	\$109, buyers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited.	\$500	\$350, sellers
Philippine Tobacco } Invest. Co., Ltd.)	\$50	\$18.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 40, buyers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 40, sales & buy.
Laon Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 45.
Soyches	Tls. 500	Tls. 160.
Hongkong	\$100	\$16, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$11, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$50, sales & sellers
Green Island Cement.	\$10	\$23, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40.
Hongkong & C. Gas ..	210	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric }	10	\$14, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways ..	\$5	\$74, sales
Hk. Steam Water }	100	\$327, sellers
boat Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$114, sales & buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$148, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$235, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$95, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$1124, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$217.
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$1674, sales
China Fire	\$20	\$83, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$60, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$310, sellers
North China	\$25	Tls. 200.
Straits	\$20	\$1, nominal
Union	\$100	\$535.
Yangtze	\$60	\$140, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$175, sellers
Humphreys' Estate.	\$10	\$124, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$424, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$55.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$124, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$15, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$600, sellers
Jebeu	\$5	\$1.10, buyers
Punjom	\$104	\$3, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	35 cents, sales
Raub	18	\$9, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$64	\$384.
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$271.
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$10, buyers
Robinson Co. Piano, Ltd.	\$50	\$50, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	{ \$25, sales nominal
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$43, sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$384, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	210	\$106.
Shell Transport and } Trading Co.	21	{ £1.6s. Cd., sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	{ \$27, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	{ \$15, buyers
United Asbestos	\$5	nominal.
Do.	\$4	\$9, buyers
Universal Trading }	10	\$155.
Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$22, buyers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$74, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$15, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Deucalion, Hitachi Maru, Jason, Tantalus.
FOR LONDON.—Jason, Ballarat, Deucalion, Patroclus, Hitachi Maru.
FOR LIVERPOOL.—Panguey, Agamemnon, Hyson.
FOR MARSEILLES.—Tonkin, Deucalion, Jason, Tantalus, Hitachi Maru.
FOR BREMEN.—Kioulschau, Scmlia.
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Serlia, Segovia, Strassburg, Samlia, Swonia, Suevia.
FOR GENOA.—Agamemnon, Hyson.
FOR NEW YORK.—Richmond Castle, Pembroke, Nubia.
FOR MANZANILLO, MEXICO AND SAN FRANCISCO.—Chingwo.
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Hyades, Keemun, Kaga Maru, Riojun Maru.
FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of India, Tartar.
FOR PORTLAND (OR.).—Indravelli.
FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Taiyuan, Yawata Maru, Australian.
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—Hiroshima Maru.
FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO AND BOMBAY.—Peking.
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND PENANG.—Capri.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

April—
ARRIVALS.
9, Chusan, British str., from Shanghai.
9, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
10, Argo, Norwegian str., from Canton.
10, Cowie, British str., from Novorossck.
10, Feiching, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
10, Hipsang, British str., from Hankow.
10, Karin, Swedish str., from Canton.
10, Nantag, British str., from Calcutta.
10, Post a Main Japanese str., from Manila.
10, S. Rielmers, Brit str., from Singapore.
10, Sagami, British str., from New York.
10, Shantung, German str., from Canton.
10, Thea, German str., from Newchwang.
10, Tsingtau, German str., from Bangkok.
11, Clunsang, British str., from Swatow.
11, Doris, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.
11, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
11, Hailan, French str., from Peking.
11, Hangchow, British str., from Hilo.
11, Kalgan, British str., from Shanghai.
11, Kitai, Russian str., from Singapore.
11, Kweiyang, British str., from Swatow.
11, Maidauru Maru, Jap. str., from Amoy.
11, Taisang, British str., from Singapore.
12, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Canton.
12, Cliftonford, British 4-m. bk., from N. York.
12, Chi-yuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
12, Dharwar, Swedish bge., from Fremantle.
12, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
12, Kapa Maru, Japanese str., from Shanghai.
12, Maria Lickmers, Ger. str., from Chinkiang.
12, Pacting, British str., from Shanghai.
12, Pailfincer, U.S. surv.-ves., from Manila.
13, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
13, Choyang, British str., from Canton.
13, Daphne, German str., from Java.
13, Glaucus, British str., from Yokohama.
13, Hense, German str., from Canton.
13, Holstein, German str., from Saigon.
13, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
13, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
13, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
13, Ressa, Russian str., from Chinkiang.
13, Tairu, German str., from Saigon.
13, Verona, German str., from Moji.
13, Zifiro, British str., from Manila.
14, Canton, British str., from Swatow.
14, China, Austrian str., from Trieste.
14, Empress of India, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
14, Hailoeng, British str., from Tamsui.
14, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
14, Indravelli, British str., from Portland.
14, Java, British str., from Shanghai.
14, Lcougang, British str., from Manila.
14, Loyal, German str., from Chinkiang.
14, Lycemcon, German str., from Shanghai.
14, M. Riekmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
14, Quarta, German str., from Wosung.
14, Sachsen, German str., from Yokohama.
14, Tetartos, German str., from Singapore.
14, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., from Kofu.
14, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
14, Yoneyama Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
15, Ariel, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.
15, Bayern, German str., from Hamburg.

15, Cassius, German str., from Wosung.
15, Coningebv, British str., from Barry Dock.
15, Coptic, British str., from San Francisco.
15, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
15, Elita Nosack, Ger. str., from Chinkiang.
15, Frans Ferdinand, Ger. str., from Y'hama.
15, Hangeang, British str., from Canton.
15, Haldie, Norwegian str., from Singapore.
15, Kilburn, British str., from Moji.
15, Kongsberg, German str., from Yokohama.
15, Lothian, British str., from Singapore.
15, Marie Jebsen, German str., from Saigon.
15, Mausang, British str., from Sandakan.
15, Ocean, British battleship, from practice.
15, Petchaluri, German str., from Bangkok.
15, Prometheus, Norwegian str., from Amoy.
15, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
16, Daiya Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
16, Kinshin Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
16, Kiukiang, British str., from Canton.
16, Malacca, British str., from London.
16, Marburg, German str., from Hamburg.
16, Phra Chom Klao, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
16, Prosper, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.
16, Skuld, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.

April—

DEPARTURES.

10, Bjorn, Norwegian str., for Tourn.
10, Borg, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
10, Coromandel, British str., for Shanghai.
10, Dagmar, Norwegian str., for Quinhon.
10, Gaea, Norwegian str., for Singapore.
10, Hailan, British str., for Swatow.
10, Hamur, British str., for Swatow.
10, Heithdene, British str., for Iloilo.
10, Kampot, French str., for Saigon.
10, Michael Jebsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
10, Onsang, British str., for Hongay.
10, Repton, British str., for Bangkok.
10, Taisan, British str., for Swatow.
10, Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
11, Australian, British str., for Shanghai.
11, Capri, Italian str., for Bombay.
11, Chusan, British str., for Europe.
11, Feiching, Chinese str., for Canton.
11, Glengary, British str., for Shanghai.
11, Hipsang, British str., for Canton.
11, Loongm on, German str., for Shanghai.
11, Nippon Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.
11, P. Q. C. Klao, German str., for Bangkok.
11, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
11, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
11, Sabine Riekmers, British str., for Canton.
11, Sagami, British str., for Shanghai.
11, Shantung, German str., for Singapore.
11, Stanley Dollar, Danish str., for Moji.
12, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
12, Doris, Norwegian str., for Canton.
12, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoibow.
12, Kalgan, British str., for Canton.
12, Kitai, Russian str., for Shanghai.
13, Babelsburg, German str., for Amoy.
14, Catherine Apcar, Brit. str., for Calcutta.
14, Chi-yuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
14, Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
14, Glaucus, British str., for London.
14, Haiching, British str., for Jerselton.
14, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
14, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Canton.
14, Machew, German str., for Swatow.
14, Pacting, British str., for Canton.
14, Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.
14, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Canton.
15, Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
15, Elita Nosack, German str., for Canton.
15, Emma Luyken, German str., for Swatow.
15, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Hoibow.
15, Hailan, French str., for Hoibow.
15, Hangeang, British str., for Shanghai.
15, Iyvdene, British str., for Moji.
15, Kchsicharg, German str., for Bangkok.
15, Koun Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
15, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.
15, Lycemcon, German str., for Canton.
15, Maidauru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
15, Marie Jebsen, German str., for Nagoya.
15, Ocean, British battleship, for Mira Bay.
15, Ompenter, British str., for Penang.
15, Sachsen, German str., for Europe.
16, Ariel, Norwegian str., for Canton.
16, Bayern, German str., for Shanghai.
16, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
16, Hangeang, British str., for Shanghai.
16, Itria, British str., for Rangoon.
16, Java, British str., for London.
16, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
16, Lothian, British str., for Shanghai.
16, ... German str., for Chefoo.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Machew*, from Bangkok, Mrs. Finner Mr. and Mrs. Inayaki, Messrs. Dralle, Sirtoro, Honram and von Duttmar.

Per *Australian*, for Hongkong, from Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Finnis, Mrs. Bolton, Misses Hanton, Haid, Suter and Gaidener, Messrs. R. Guy Pearce, L. Bainbridge, H. E. Downer, W. R. Chew, Muncatt and Suter; from Manila, Messrs. T. Kazai and H. Hoad; for Japan, from Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Bertie, Mr. and Mrs. L. Walford, Mrs. and Miss Bell, Mrs. and Miss Langdon, Misses Snaw, Riddock, Cowan, Farrar, Andreé, A. Craven, N. and V. Wolmar, J. D. and B. Coghlan, Messrs. P. Klemp, W. Andreé, John Duff and A. A. White; from Manila, Mrs. J. F. and Master Cass and Mrs. J. H. Pope.

Per *Coromandel*, for Hongkong, from London, Sergt. Major and Mrs. Webb and two children, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Brigstocke, Miss Harding, Sergts. Munge and E. O. Eagleton, Corpl. Tyler and T. McGuire, Messrs. O. D. Thomson, Murray, P. Jackson, J. M. Robson, E. A. Umney, G. W. Ryder and J. Bende; from Marseilles, Mrs. von Fischer, Mrs. Clive, Mr. and Mrs. Pease, Miss Chalmers, Mrs. W. Briggs and B. Barnett, Messrs. G. F. Veitch, E. R. Graham and Wright; from Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Perry; from Colombo, Mrs. Atherton, Sergt. and Mrs. Walters and three children, and Miss Chandos Pole; from Penang, Messrs. P. H. Henshaw and F. Chapman; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Black, Mr. and Mrs. Miss Quarrier, Mrs. Moses, Major Austen, Messrs. E. C. Taylor, W. E. Darby, J. E. Ward, and W. C. Bond; for Shanghai, from London, Dr. and Mrs. Christie and four children; Mrs. J. H. Brown, Miss Forster and Mr. Douglas; from Marseilles, Mrs. and two Misses Weir, and Major W. M. Watson; from Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. D. Campbell; from Penang, Mr. J. D. Symonds; for Yokohama, from London, Mr. and Miss Atkinson, Messrs. A. L. Laughey and Gibbs; from Gibraltar, Mr. A. Herbert.

Per *Kalgan*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Wavell.

Per *Thea*, from Newchwang, &c., Mr. Bernier.

Per *Chusan*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Addis, Lieut. Col. Cleve, Lance Sergt. Rice, Corpl. Wittington, Messrs. Goodfellow, Gatsberg, Stephens, Bune, Bastien and R. Laira; for Singapore, Mr. A. Burt; for Bombay, Capt. Creagh, Messrs. Narim Dass and S. Pillay; for Marseilles, Dr. and Mrs. Robertson and infant, Messrs. R. A. Coussens, W. H. Marks and H. E. Fischer; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Doyné, Messrs. G. Crank, A. W. Brankston, F. J. Abbott and child, G. Watt and L. Hookes.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Wise, Mrs. Zumbstein, Mrs. D. M. Fleming and two children, Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. Frank Finlay, Misses D. Machado, Blackwood, M. G. C. Thomas, Clifford, Mitchell, K. Nakashima, K. Ando, Fukuda, M. Okasaki and Sakai, Capt. Wittenmeyer, Rev. J. B. Hall, Dr. J. Pinquard, Messrs. Jose Gramunt, S. S. McCarvey, J. C. McBe, H. H. Balch, G. M. Moore, C. F. Carstein, G. C. Scott, H. Liun, Hans Muller, R. F. Freidel, I. Schott, G. C. Graree, W. Gillian, T. C. Adam, A. S. Buford, F. Bargmann, W. D. Kempthorne, W. H. Gregg, H. J. Hawkins, Oaten, H. S. Cutter, J. W. Taylor, J. F. Hayne, H. B. Fleec, W. E. Purnian, Chas. Austin, Kenworthy, E. Davis, T. Miura, J. Shizaki, W. Kretze, S. Shibata and P. Olsen.

Per *Haimun*, from Swatow, Messrs. S. Howard and Wakeman.

Per *Kogu Maru*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Carranza, Messrs. T. C. Stafford, A. G. Rose and A. F. Das Caldas.

Per *Kagoshima Maru*, from Singapore, Messrs. Taylor and Brown.

Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mrs. S. C. Simpson, Mrs. B. Allen, Mrs. F. L. Macondray and child, Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. T. Reyes, Mrs. E. J. Austin, Misses R. Kellie, F. Dinn, E. Rosenberg, Paddock, Williams and Miller, Messrs. C. H. Simpson, B. Winthrop, E. L. Van Zandt, F. K. Salmstaler, J. H. Burton, W. S. Waburn, Fuller, G. Brusse, Harry Reed, C. R. Bancroft, E. B. Sandford

Baxter, Liebert, D. Paddock, M. K. Newman, Geo. C. Rider, K. B. Schley, S. C. Reeves, Wm. Lane O'Neill, W. Pierce, T. E. Borden, Thos. Kelly, W. H. O. Smith, Geo. Missemer, J. W. Taylor, C. Dagdog, P. Leones and H. Kayama. Per *Kwangtuh*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Coulton, Mrs. Nison, Messrs. Remedios, Madeira and J. T. Mathews.

Per *Hailong*, from Tamsui, &c., Miss Holm and Mr. Michael.

Per *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Ewart; from Yokohama, Mr. R. Tiens; from Kobe, Mrs. R. Waller; from Shanghai, Messrs. J. R. Reed, E. Peterson, Dalgetty, R. N. and Haynes, R. N.

Per *Stichtaen*, from Yokohama, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Guy Cheson and child, Mrs. Borgia, Miss S. Spunt, Messrs. Louis Horoe, Harry Willmer, J. Lemke, A. Rosenfeld, A. Walgamut, E. Liebert, McAdam, A. Korff, Stewart Laughlin, Thos. Cock, Borgia, H. R. Robinson and Zanoni.

Per *Lea*, from Shanghai, Capt. Carter and Mr. H. Barrett.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Misses F. E. Duncan, W. Krauss and E. Blanch, Messrs. N. C. Smith, G. A. Harrison, A. N. Small, H. C. White, J. Gilmore, J. W. Tins, C. D. Cool, C. H. Weloni, B. D. Stowell, C. H. Corvett, Geo. C. Rider and Geo. Allen.

Per *Franz Ferdinand*, from Yokohama, &c., Dr. Eckstein.

Per *Bayern*, for Hongkong, from Southampton, Messrs. T. A. Tarby and Alex. Court; from Genoa, Capt. J. Hansen, Misses Bertha Leiste and T. M. Lee, Messrs. E. M. Milliken and M. Jensen; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Wilcox, Mr. A. C. Milward and Miss J. Nichols; from Penang, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Fleming, Maj. Carter, Messrs. J. Wilson, W. A. W. Down and H. S. Smith; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Port, Mr. and Mrs. A. Stalman, Mr. and Mrs. Gibson and child, Miss L. F. Port, Messrs. Joan Geldermann, F. Klein, W. Robinson, M. Loebell, P. Smidt von Geld, J. B. Geary, A. C. Kohler, H. Hildburgh, and W. L. Hildburgh; for Shanghai, from Hamburg, Mr. F. Petzel, Misses Helene Bunsen and Louise Budde; from Antwerp, Dr. J. Klynen; from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. Attilio Monaco, Mrs. Bassett, Miss Florence Bassett, Mr. and Mrs. Th. Stern, Miss E. Warman, Master Percy R. F. Fox, Messrs. H. Koch, J. Fried, Rodewald, Giuseppe Vosconi, G. Thiel, Major J. C. Musprott and Capt. Pastorelli; from Penang, Mr. and Mrs. Rossum and children; from Singapore, Earle of Lomdale, Countess of Lomdale, Miss Lovelock, Messrs. Ashenden and H. Kerl; for Nagasaki, from Hamburg, &c., Rev. and Mrs. Hutchinson, Miss Hutchinson, Mrs. Pagorelsky and children, Dr. T. Sunikawa and Mr. Yoshida; for Kobe, Mrs. E. Oldenburg and children and Prof. M. Kasahara; for Yokohama, Mrs. J. Fried, Rodewald, Miss M. Rodewald, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Theodor, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Th. Weaver, Mrs. Oh Yasso, Miss A. Hase, Messrs. W. J. Berry, Carl Schmidt, Paul Kracke, D. Messerlian and Alb. Haim.

Per *Coptic*, from San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Bunter, Mrs. L. Johnson, Mrs. A. Lynn, Dr. L. Barkan, Messrs. John Derby, T. F. Hough, H. B. Jones and J. F. Van Bentham Vanden Borch; from Honolulu, Mr. Spencer Shelley; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. R. Howard, Messrs. J. W. Copman, P. R. Davis, and E. H. R. Manley; from Nagasaki, Mr. F. T. Gause; from Shanghai, Mrs. H. Stone, Mr. S. Fernandes and two Masters Fernandes.

Per *Malacca*, from London, Major and Mrs. Bunny and three children, Lieut. Col. Mrs. and Miss Watts, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Capt. J. H. Jones, Lieut. Tanner, Capt. Kirkpatrick, 2nd Lieut. A. H. Allen, Messrs. G. Wintle and A. Stewart.

DEPARTED.

Per *Kanagawa Maru*, for Japan, Mrs. and Miss Braithwaite, Mrs. Mine, Mrs. Stone, H. E. and Mrs. Inagaki, Mr. and Mrs. K. Sumi'a, Mr. and Mrs. Amano and two children, Mr. and Mrs. R. Negishi, Mrs. S. Hayashida, Mrs. Skinner, Misses Mand, Stone, F. Negishi, Struthers, Masters Y. and R. Negishi, Messrs. J. S. Phipps, H. C. Phipps, T. H. Wedge, J. L. Davis, H. Hewitt, Y. Kozai, H. Hara, R.

Furnya, E. Wood, G. Asano, T. Kodama, Kuwabara, J. Tadok Hall, Marriott, May, and T. Kawaii.

Per *Chusan*, from Hongkong, for London, Insp. and Mrs. Culbert and child, Mr. and Mrs. B. K. Daniels, Mrs. Merchant and three children, Mrs. Jones, Commander J. J. Graham, Messrs. G. Gradwell and John Fisher; for Bombay, Messrs. H. Nolasco da Silva and B. P. Tanatia; for Colombo, Mrs. Haynes, Mrs. A. W. Whitlow and infant, and Mr. W. Clarke; for Singapore, Messrs. W. J. Hernan, Fed. and Fran. Zapirain and W. L. Smith; from Shanghai, for London, Mr. and Mrs. W. Stuart, Mrs. Brown, Messrs. G. Craik and A. W. Brankston; for Marseilles, Dr. and Mrs. H. R. Robertson and infant, Mr. R. A. Cowans; for Bombay, Captain Creagh, Messrs. Narayan, Dass and S. Pillay; for Singapore, Mr. A. Burt; from Kobe, for London, Mr. F. J. Abbott and child.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Molina, Miss C. Molina, Mrs. F. Finlay, Mr. and Mrs. Grossenhaker and child, Miss J. Clifford, Messrs. H. C. Russell, Ernest H. Fisher, P. F. Jernegan, Pedro Tato, J. E. Gsell, Jose Prez de Tagle, Edwards Soriano, G. W. Ward, August Schroeder and F. Nimmerfaren.

Per *Rubi*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Trace, Miss Eva M. Surface, Messrs. J. C. Nichols, F. R. Lutz, Wm. Stuart Webster, I. Coleom, Wm. Wilson, Benadins Alvazo, G. Lisiste, A. Villanimo, Remigio Yunes, Juan Lachina, Domingo Veyler, Nicolas Castillo Espano Reyes, Rupino Abdon, Isidro Flores, Mirnuy Ynaraz, Serapine Perez, Ceriario Barlan, Juan Tellamaz, Keyetano de la Pena, Grogorao de la Santz, Regino Pablo and G. Gilchrist.

Per *Sachsen*, for Europe, &c., Mrs. E. W. Barr Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bailey and Lady Cox, Mrs. Coleman and two children, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Drummond, Mrs. Engel and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Faber, Mrs. A. von Geunep and child, Mr. and Mrs. S. Green and child, Mrs. Holmes and two children, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hagen and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Homan and child Mrs. J. Hunt and child, Mrs. Irven, Mr. and Mrs. Kendall, Mr. and Mrs. Kerkhoff and child, Consul and Mrs. Knappe Mrs. R. Lemke and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. Maenning, Mrs. Matt Smith and child, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Newmaroh and children, Mrs. Peardi, Mr. and Mrs. A. Perrin, Mr. and Mrs. C. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. von Roesseng, Mr. and Mrs. H. Robert and two children, Mrs. F. v. Reiffenstahl, Mr. and Mrs. Schlunk, Mr. and Mrs. Stutzand, Mrs. Tuebben, Mr. and Mrs. Viner, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Witsen Elias, Mrs. Wohleking, Mrs. W. C. Wood and child, Misses M. Bekking, Bijelow, Briggs, Cogan, Cheney, Emerson, P. Junge, Macpherson, Potter, M. Tonnett, M. F. Taylor and Williams, Capt. Z. S. Bahr, Right Rev. Dr. C. Pagnini, Rev. Striction, Dr. A. Tobber, Rev. Waltham, Messrs. A. S. Buford, jr., Jasper Boon, L. A. C. Biggs, Bunje, R. Bouneken, Bell, S. Chester ton, W. C. Ford, H. Gnl, Granberg, R. R. Gievelinski, Aug. Hendrichs, F. Howell, E. Hill, C. Kanfield, Kirdorf, Charles Lund Lorentzen, L. Menasche, J. J. Pel and child, D. v. Reeth, E. Radol, Van Reenen, H. F. U. Steemberg, H. Smith, W. Sundt, C. G. Schulz and child, Schearwood, Geo. C. Scott, G. Tel's, Vortisch, M. Vis, Weitzmann, H. Wille, Worth and Van Zydvid.

Per *Bayern*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Rangel, Mrs. O. Mensen, Mrs. C. Chamberlain, Dr. and Mrs. Kreig, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. G. W. Bird, Mr. and Mrs. Cochran, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Abraham, Misses S. Spunt and Powell, Rev. E. Torres, Lieut. Col. Cleve, Messrs. Geo. C. Graves, H. Martens, Woollen, S. J. Rowes, Schley, A. v. Wittemberaki, A. Korff, F. Reiber, R. Lemke, A. H. Rosenfeld, Wahlgenuth, J. Cook, and Bunse, for Nagasaki, Miss R. Serper and Mr. M. O. Detmar; for Kobe, Mrs. G. Mills and Mrs. C. Marques; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. G. Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Paddock, Miss Atchison, Messrs. Gibbs, Atchison, P. Fuller, W. Homann and P. Smidt v. Gelder.

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